

The Honour of
MERCHANT-TAYLORS.

Wherein is set forth

The Noble Acts, Valliant Deeds, and Heroick performances of

MERCHANT-TAYLORS
in former Ages.

Their Honourable Loves, and Knightly
Adventures, their Combating with Forraign Enemies,
And glorious successes in honour of the English Nation,

Together with their Pious Acts and large Benevolences, their
building of publick Structures, especially that of

BLACKWELL-HALL,
to be a Market place for the selling of Woollen Cloaths.

*For bounty, valour, and for buildings fair,
What Trade with Merchant-Taylors may compare.*

Of this Famous Company have been free 7 Kings of England, besides Princes; Dukes, Earls and Lords a great number.

Written by *William Winstanley,*

LONDON,

Printed by P. L. for William Whitwood at the Sign of the
Golden-Lyon in Duck-lane. 1668.



The true Effigies of that Valiant K^t and March-
ant Taylor Sir RALPH BLACKWELL

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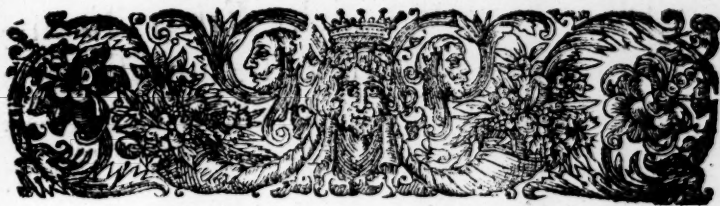
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T O

The worthy Society of the Worshipful
Company of
MERCHANT-TAYLORS.

Gentlemen,

THe famous Acts of your noble Progenitors hath awakened my Pen to let them forth, though not in so full manner as they do deserve: What person skill'd in **H**istory that can be ignorant of the **W**orthy exploits of Sir *John Hawkwood*, whose honour'd praiseounds thorough the Territories of all *Christendom*, and whose

The Epistle.

whole heroick acts hath by **Fames** Trumpet been sounded forth to the utmost parts of the earth. This Honoured person with several other magnanimous *Hero's* being of the *Worthy Merchant-Taylors Trade*, I thought a History of them would not be unwelcome to you, considering things of this Nature have been well entertained by those of other Trades inferior to you. The Book of the *Gentle Craft* hath had a general acceptance of the *Cordwainers*, and the History of the *Six Worthy Yeomen of the West*, and *Fack of Newle y* the like from the *Wearers*. Daign therefore to accept of this, and the good will of him that wrot it, who is a Lover of your Society, ambitious of the encrease of your honour, and one that subscribes himself

Yours to serve you

William Winstandly.



To the Courteous Readers.

I Suppose that there is not any one who is skilfull in History that can be ignorant of the Monourable Atchievements of Merchant-Taylors; a Chronicle may as well be found without words, as without matter wherein in all Ages they have performed such Acts as have eternized their names in Fames Bead-roll, whether by Martial Discipline, bountifull liberality, sumptuous structures, or Honourable Love, still we find this noble Company of Heroick spirits to equall (if not exceed) any of those Trades who claim the priority of chief; and may in words boast much, but must in deeds come far behind them. Now there is nothing encourages young men, so much to vertuous resolutions as by reading the Noble Acts of their famous predecessors which stirs in them an emulation of the like performances, as we read of Themistocles that the tryumph of Mil-tiades would not let him sleep, and the Honour of our Nation gallant Sir Phillip Sidney reports of himself that the only he a ring of that old song of Piercy and Dowglas, though sung no better then by an ordinary Chanter, but it stirred up his valour more then the sound of the Trumpet or beat of the Drum, such is the powerfull force of History that it infuses valour above a'l other means whatsoever; nor hath it less effect in inciting persons to the building of famous structures for the beautifying of Cities, or relief of decayed persons

The Epistle to the Reader.

persons, wherein none have been more eminent then this Noble Company of Merchant-Taylors, as you may in part read at the latter end of this book, and might be instanced in many more particulars, such worthy Acts being recorded to posterity that others by reading what they have done might be incited to imitate their worthy examples, and such is (or should be) the chief end of writing Books, and was the main end intended in this; the basis or foundation whereof thou wilt find (courteous Reader) to be a real truth, though imbelished with such flowers of Poesy as I could gather out of Apollo's Garden, that thou mightest be won with delight in the reading thereof. But I shall not enlarge myself any further, nor detain thee any longer at the Porch of the History, be pleased to enter in and view the rarities wherewith it is stored; I question not but thou wilt find something therein which will give thee content, which being obtained I have my wish.

W. W.

Licensed May 18. 1668. Roger L'Estrange.



THE
H O N O U R
O F
Merchant Taylors.

CHAP. I.

The birth of Sir *John Hawkwood*, how he was bound Prentice at *London* to a Merchant Taylor, how he fell in Love with his Masters daughter, with other things that ensued thereon.



In the days of that Famous and magnanimous Prince King Edward the Third, there was born at *Sible Henningham* in the County of *Essex*, a Right worthy Knight, known afterwards to the world by the Name of Sir *John Hawkwood*, who though born of mean and despicable Parents, yet by his skill in Arms and fortunate success attained to such high Renown and Dignity, that his name became most eminently famous throughout the compass of the whole world.

The Honour of

In his very Infancy he was of a quick and pregnant capacity, and shewed many signs of a magnificent inclination, so that this early spring of gallant resolutions promised a golden Harvest of heroick performances, and that in time he should become the admired Champion of his age.

Having attained to some perfection of years, he was bound Apprentice at London to one of the worthy Society of Merchant Taylors: where though he endured a hard Apprentice-ship, yet pains in youth inured him to undergo hard ship afterwards, when being a Soldier he was forced to extremities, whereas those that never felt the miseries of want, being brought into necessity, wanted no kind of misery as being not inured to suffer Calamity: whilst he who had been habituated to hardship underwent all with an invincible and willing patience. So that continual use in time did make his labour ease, and pains pleasure. Thus did his Apprentice-ship glide away undisturbed, and Time which devours all things had now consumed a bove six years of the school he had to serve his Master, but so when his time of servitude was now nigh expired, and that he began as it were to have an entrance into freedom, he on a sudden became a prey to Cupid, being Captivated by the enchanting beauty of Arabella his Masters Eldest daughter, but she had before so strongly placed her affection on Ralph her Fathers Journey-man, that there was no corner of her heart left to entertain the least love of young Hawkwoods; yet notwithstanding he knew which way her affections were bent, and that she had wholly resigned up her self to the disposal of Ralph, yet did he not doubt but that his love and unfeigned service would in process of time so alienate her thoughts, that at length he might become Master of her affections; for well he knew that Ralph was of a forward peevish disposition, irreconcilable in anger, and apt upon the least distaste to forget all former though never so binding courtships; and therefore he hoped that Ralphs undeservings, would at length so far unblinde her eyes as not to settle her affections where she saw no merit; and in the interim to draw her good opinion towards him, he became very serviceable to her in what business so ever that happened in the house wherein she had any thing to do; which she kindly accepted, interpreting it to his good nature, and not in the least imputing it to Love, her thoughts being so wholly taken

taken up in contemplation of the seeming perfections of Ralph, that now she began to see with no other eyes but what he lent her, and to think no other thoughts but what he inspired.

In the mean time imperious Love did so torment the heart of young Hawkwood that his life became irksome unto him, sleep was now become a stranger, and care and discontent his daily companions: His cheeks which before were as ruddy as the blushes of Aurora, were now converted to a thin paleness, his speeches were broken and imperfect, evermore concluding with a sigh for his period. Solitary company is loathsome to him, and his chief delight is in solitary places; he exclaims on Love as tyrannical, and blames the destinies for not being propitious to him. Many days did he waste thus in fruitless exclamations, at last he resolves upon the first opportunity to disclose his Love to the fair Arabella, (for Love by concealment encreases, and private imaginations add fuel to that fire) now long it was not ere the blind Goddess put a Golden opportunity into his hands, for his dearest Love being to go some miles out of Town, young Hawkwood was by his Master commanded to attend on her, and being on their journey, having a fit time and place, to unfold his mind to her, he resolved to take time by the foretop, and not to let slip so fair an opportunity, whereupon with a bashful modestness he broke his mind to her in these words,

My dearest Love (pardon my boldness that I so entitle thee) having for a long time took special notice of your supereminent endowments both of body and mind; I cou'd not chuse but first to like, and then to love thee; and upon a serious deliberation to approve of that Love. Startle not my dear at this sudden motion for what I now propound, is that which my heart doth dictate unto me, and not airy verbal expressions; Let not then my unfeigned affection receive a repulse, but rather a friendly entertainment; which I the better hope, since it would be altogether contrary to Nature, that any the least sparkle of cruelty should have habitation in so fair a sweet composed body.

Such ado had Arabella to hold from interrupting him until he had done; many times was she about to speak, to check that Love which she deemed in him great presumption; and with an angry reply to quench that fire which she imagined was but as yet tending to a flame; but contrary thoughts often interposed, affirming that it was

mer Injustice to repay Love with disdain, and to return harsh words for affectionate speeches, that the Gods though angry would be appeased with sacrifices, and there were few men so implacable in hatred, but that loving words would mollifie their wrath, then that affectionate speeches proceeding from Love should procure anger, were quite contrary to reason, she therefore upon second thoughts resolved to alter her first resolution, yet so to daunt him in his Love suit, as to make him desist from prosecuting it any further, she therefore bid him leave off dreaming of such fond Chymera's, at least not to make her the aim of his thoughts, seeing his judgment might have inform'd him otherwise, that she should never be brought to stop to so low a lure as he, having been sought to by others so far beyond him; and therefore John (said she) let me advise you to follow your work, and leave off these idle fancies least if you persist I so inform your spallier of you, as shall return to your small advantage.

How welcome this Answer was to young Hawkwood let them imagine who have been in the same condition, yet was he resolved (for all her words) not so to give over, accounting him but a cowardly Soulesier that would tire for one shot of the Cannon, and therefore was minded to accost her the second bout, but drawing now near to their journey's end he reserved it for another time; not giving her any reply at all, and therefore Arabella well hoped that she had so sufficiently quashed her new Lover as not to hear of him in the like posture again; but having dispatched their business and returning again homewards, quite contrary to her expectation, young Hawkwood began to renew his suit again in these words.

Most dear *Arabella*, let not the prosecution of my former words be offensive to you, nor blame me for renewing my suit, though contrary to your command, since though by the one I incur your displeasure, yet without obtaining the other I can no longer subsist; O did you but feel those flames that burn in my breast, you would not seek to add to my affliction. But *Arabella* impatient of any further discourse tending to Love, presently replied, and can you be so bold to insist still on that which I so hate to hear, hath my former words wrought no greater impression in you, or can your impudence imagine that what I then spake was but in jest? What audacious boldness hath thus possess'd you, or with what extream folly are you so misled, as to think

I should cast away my self by condescension to so mean a person; because some forsooth have been so fond as to run away with their fathers servants, thereby purchasing repentance with their own undoing, do you imagine to find the like by me, no Sir rest assured, I am of another temper and therefore desist from urging your suit further, and save your breath for better purposes.

This Answer was fit by a cooling Card to young Hawkwood that he durst not make her a reply, but hung down his head like a bull-rush, revolbing a thousand things in his mind, so they silently passed on their journey, till (with the day) they brought it to an end, but our young Lober was so cast down, that no sooner was he come home but he went to bed, pretending weariness in trabel, where we will leave him for the present, fretting and discontented at his adverse fortune.

CHAP. II.

Young *Hawkwood* being discontented goeth to be a Souldier, how *William* served *Ralph* the Journey-man, with other matters that ensued.

There was Prentice in the same house with young Hawkwood a lad named William, about sixteen years of age, an ingenious youth who very much loved John Hawkwood, but could not so well affect the strange conditions and humours of Ralph the Journey-man. This William having of late marked the great alterations that were in Hawkwood, would needs be so inquisitive as to know of him the reasons thereof: promising (if it lay in his power) to refuse no danger to do him good; so that with much importunity Hawkwood revealed all unto him, conjuring him of secrecy, yet without telling him that

that he was resolved since that his time was now exp'red, and that he proved so unfortunate in his Love, to forsake the Ensign of Cupid, and to put himself under the Banner of Mars. At that time King Edward the third laid claim to the Kingdome of France in Right of his Mother, and in pursuance of his title raised a mighty Army, and conducted them into France, With there went one discontented Lover, whose low fortunes could not then raise him to a higher place than a private Sculbier; who safely laboured with the rest of the Army, where for a while we will leave him to relate how William served Ralph the Journey-man.

Who soon after the departure of Hawkwood fell also deeply in love with the fair Arabella, and understanding how strongly her affections were placed on Ralph, he thought it the best policy to remove that obstacle out of the way before he discovered his love unto her, to this end he framed a Letter in Ralphs name to this effect,

Dear Friend,

I Received your Letter, and thank you for your good advice, but do not think I am so deep in Love but that I can go out of it when I please; no, Cupids manacles are of no greater strength to bind my heart, then a twine thread is to hold a Gyant: for Love which to others seems to be a great torment, is to me only a pastime, in beholding the vanity of our female Saints, whom two or three kind words can bring into a fools paradise: This could I instance in my fond Arabella, who thinks she hath my heart chained to her devotions, when alas poor silly wench, upon sight of the next fair object it is ready to take flight, therefore rest confident that Love shall never cause my ruine, for I will never hang it on so close, but that I will easily shake it off, and so adieu,

Your faithfull friend *Ralph*,

This Letter had William so cunningly counterfeited, that a knowing eye could not discern it from Ralphs own hand; his next policy was that Arabella only should have the sight of it, which was easily done, by dropping it unsealed where by she was to pass, who stooping and taking it up, thinking by the Character it had been her Lovers hand,

hand, for the more secrecy in reading it she went into her own chamber, and perceiving his name at the bottom thereof, she then rested confident it was his own writing: but having read it over, the paper which before (as coming from him) she kissed with her lips, she could now scarcely forbear from tearing with her hands, who had then seen her would have taken her for one of Diana's, Pymphs metamorphosed into a fury, such a sudden change did these lines work in her heart, that what she before so much loved, now she as much loathed, what before was so highly honored, is now as much abhorred, and that which was so greatly respected is now as much disliked. O Heavens (said she) why did you create so false a thing as man: and is it possible such dissimulation could harbor in that breast? who ever hereafter will trust to vows or protestations: O Sun why do not you extinguish your light since he so deeply loves, that you should so much fail to run your course, then he would cease to be faithful unto me. Frown Heavens at these perjuries, and O you Gods punish these impieties, let dissimulation have his just reward, and violation of faith suffer chastisement. In this manner did she exclaim on Ralph, whilst he remained both innocent and ignorant, and William who had wrought this mischief, was the least of all suspects. Now doth she alter her carriage to another tune, frowning as much as she could the very sight of him, such impressions of hatred had the Letter wrought in her. But her revenge reflecteth not here, next she solicites her Father to turn him away, and that with such importunity, that she will have no denial, so that hereupon Ralph hath warning to be gone suddenly, at which he much marvelled yet not in the least suspected the reason, and now intending to impart his mind to his dearest Love, he finds her so far estranged as not to be spoken withall; Not an opportunity did he let slip where he imagined to meet her, but all his vigilancy could nothing avail, and the time drawing near wherein he was to depart, he therefore took Pen and Paper in hand, and writ to her as followeth.

Most dear heart,

WHat should cause this strangeness in you thus on a suddain, is to me altogether unknown, having to my knowledge given no just occasion; is love so light thus to be quite blown away and no reason to be given therefore; or can you so soon forget those solemn engagements past between us? were there a failing on my part, I should soon expiate the offence though with my dearest blood, be then so merciful a Judge as not to condemn me before my cause be known, and if you find me guilty, then let me suffer your severest censure; in the mean time I shall desire to have the happiness as to plead my own cause before your self, where I make no doubt but to be acquitted, and to prove my self,

Your faithful servant *Ralph*,

This Letter he conveyed to her hands by the *Spaid* of the house, whom she chid for bringing it, yet nevertheless she opened and read it; but Williams counterfeited Letter had so far possessed her with an evil opinion of him, that what he had written gained no credence with her, but rather exasperated her more then before, she judging it to be all but meer dissimulation, and therefore to check his arrogance (as she imagined it) she took Pen in hand and returned him this following Answer.

With what confidence or impudence rather, you could thus write unto me, I much marvel: is this your course, to intrap Maids hearts by Dissimulation, and then to insult over them for their pains! can you carry so fair a gloss upon so foule a Text, or think ye I am so ignorant of your ways as you would have me to be; is your large prorellations come to conclude in perjuries; and was the end of your oaths only to deceive; false man, hadst thou none to abuse but me, and must you needs boast of your victory before you had fully obtained it? blame me not then if I turn haggard, and refuse to come again to your lure: in the mean time, go court some other Lasses, whose credulity you may abuse by Dissimulation as you have done mine, and
let

let not impudence prevail so far further with you as to trouble me again with another Letter, for know I hate the very memory of thee, much less shall I abide either to see or hear from thee,

Your deserved enemy *Arabella*.

By the same hand which brought her the Letter, did she return him the answer, which he wrote me it was to Ralph, let them imagine who having been in Love, have met with the like misunderstandings in their affections, guessing at many things which might cause this sudden alteration, but still being ignorant of the true cause, and now as one utterly desperate of real success into her favour, he resolves to abandon utterly all thoughts of Love, and betake himself to the camp of Mars, in prosecution of which purpose, some further aids being sending over into France, to valiant King Edward (whose martial actions began now to be spoken of the whole world over) he lifts himself a Soldier amongst them, but before his departure he sent this Copy of Verses to his incensed *Arabella*.

Farewel thou unkind dearest, whom my eyes
Did once; more then the worlds cheif treasure prize,
Whose beauty, and whose constancy were deemed
More then all other women were esteemed,
How comes it that thou so unkind shouldst prove
To him whom once thou promis'dst for to love,
Who thought such falsehood ere in thee to find,
Or is all faith now fled from women kind,
Then fare thou well, all happiness attend thee,
And may the Gods a truer Lover send thee.

Having sent her these Verses, and the wind standing fair, he took ship, and being aided both by Neptune and Eolus, they in short time arrived in France. It was then about the time of the Year when the Lady Flora had married the earl in a rich suit of Taffety, and the winged Cherubims of the Wood didchant forth their ditties with great Harmony. Now the sons of Mars lay encamped in the field, and several skirmishes had passed betwixt both Armies; wherein the French

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most commonly had the worst, wherefore considering with themselves the danger they were in, how their armies every day decreased, their Towns continually taken by the English, and King Edwards side growing stronger and stronger; they therefore assembled a mighty Army to oppose him, and there with confronted him near to a place called Cressly: having in their Company a Champion of an extraordinary strength, and very much renowned for several achievements he had done; This Champion (whom the French called Lilio) at such time as the Armies began to approach near to one another, he sent a bold challenge to the English host, daring the best of them all to encounter with him, which challenge being full of pride and arrogance, was written as followeth,

Imperious English-men, whose ambition hath made you to cross the Seas into this our renowned Kingdome of *France*, and to wage War with him who for his valour and piety hath the attribute of the *most Christian King* bestowed upon him; think you because you have given us some petty defeats, and destroyed and burnt some few inconsiderable Villages, that you shall be able to conquer the Crown of *France*, or to bring under the French-men whose valour the World hath always had in admiration; no, know that I am the man who will stand in the gap to stop your proceedings, and thereupon do Challenge the boldest Champion in your host to encounter with me in single Combate, which if he shall be so fool-hardy as to undertake, you shall soon perceive the difference betwixt the manhood of the renowned *French*, and the pusillianity of Dastards, such as I count the English to be.

A foe to Cowards, the renowned *Lilio*.

This proud Challenge being sent into the English camp, filled those Sons of Mars with scorn and disdain of this Bragadocto; yet they were resolved to answer his folly, and to make him know the great difference betwixt words and deeds, and the noble resolution of an Englishman, before the vain boasting of the French: But none was more eager to take up this bold Challenger then was the renowned *Hawkwood*, whose notable valour had now advanced him to the degree of a Captain

Captain, and therefore he humbly desired the King to permit him to undertake the same, to which the King having had proof of his abilities, graciously condescended, whereupon the noble Hawkwood returned him an answer in these following lines.

Proud French-man who thinkest with high words to work wonders, and art so bold to vilifie that Nation who have always been your betters at the exercise of arms; But since thy inconsiderate rashness will needs prompt thee to thy destruction, know that thy challenge shall be answered, when if thou canst perform what thy paper hath promist, thou wilt have more cause to brag, but if thou beest overcome by my arm (as I make no doubt but thou wilt) thou maist then repent of thy folly, and be an example to others to brag less, without they could perform more

John Hawkwood.

The next day as it was agreed betwixt them, both the Champions met, in a bold place between both the armies, when first on horse-back, and



then on foot, they fought with much courage and manhood, but gallant Hawkwood in little space did make the French-man sensible of his error, and by his excellent valour set the palm of victory on his own head, for he soon brought the French-man low notwithstanding his high brags, so that to save his life, upon his knees he presented his sword to the conquering Hawkwood and submitted himself to be his Prisoner. This submission was by the generous Hawkwood accepted, who returned with him in triumph to the English camp, where he was received with great acclamations of joy; The King for his valour conferred on him the order of Knight-hood, and the prime commanders shew'd him much respect, feasting him, and highly extolling his manhood. The French-men on the other side when they saw their Champion withstood were much disheartned, and dreading the worst, in the night forsook their Camp, and fled away for fear of the English.

About the time that this combat was fought, Ralph the Journeyman with some other English also was newly arriv'd at King Edwards Camp, who seeing the valour of his fellow-servant, and how the whole host rang of his praises, was exceeding joyful thereof, (being utterly ignorant that Sir John was his rival in Love,) and intending to reveal himself unto him, he at last found a fit opportunity, being free from Company and separated from business, whom he accosted in these words.

Sir I very much applaud your valour, and thank the destinies that so guided your hand, as to overthrow the *French-mans* pride, indeed I much longed to see you, but to see you a Conqueror, and that in such a high nature, it doth indeed almost ravish me with joy: So it is that being cross'd in my affections with the fair but false *Arabella*, whose beauty is but a varnish to her deceitful heart, and her tyrannical squeamishness enough to make me hate all women kind, being as I say thus cross'd by *Cupid*, I thought to find *Mars* more favourable, and *France* being now the stage of action, I resolv'd to put my self an actor thereon, where it hath been my good hap even upon my very first joyning to those Sons of *Bellona*, to see and hear your honoured achievements. Daigne therefore renowned *Hawkwood* to entertain your once fellow servant *Ralph*, and though not in the degree of a friend, yet into the condition of a servant, whom you shall find obsequious.

quious to you, and not unworthy the trust you shall repose in me.

Sir John Hawkwood, who at the first beheld Ralph with some regret, as knowing him the main obstacle he had in the fair Arabella's love, finding by his discourse she had likewise cast him off, and considering with himself, the deceitfulness of that sex, how their love is like to breathe on a bank, soon on and soon off, although at first he intended to take no notice of him, but for his loves sake to have rejected his acquaintance, yet hearing now how the case went, he quite altered his mind, welcoming him with the highest expressions of Love possible, and after some further short communication, had him to his Tent; where he gave him friendly entertainment, and not long after made him a Serjeant under his Command, where for a while we will leave them, to relate in the meantime what passed betwixt William and the fair Arabella.

CHAP. III.

How *William* courted the fair *Arabella*, how his counterfeit Letter came to be discovered, and how she likewise cast him off.

WHILE these things passed in France, William who judg'd now all fair weather, and that all lets were removed which might be any hindrance to the prosecution of his designs, being as deeply scorched with the flames of Cupid, as the other two had been who were now in France, he resolves without delay to let fair Arabella know the same, which was the easier to be done, he being now upon the absence of the other two, the foreman of the Shop, and by his talks which he had gotten having accounted himself something more than an ordinary Presence, having also an accurate wit, and voluble tongue, all incentives to Love, and which indeed drew the heart of Arabella upon the absence of Ralph, to have a very good opinion of him, that opinion causing liking, and liking quickly producing affection, so that she was not any ways nice to keep him company, nor did she show such a bashfulness in carriage but what did promise him great hopes of obtaining

ing her Love, wherefore emboldned thereby, one day as they were a-
lone he brake his mind to her in these words.

My dearest *Arabella*, if what I shall now utter should be offensive



unto thee yet let me beg thy pardon, since conquering Love inforces me to it; who can view thy beauty and not admire thee? or who contemplate thy vertues and not honour thee; or hear thy discourse, and not be enamoured of thee? how then should I be able to resist such potent charms? What strength can I have against such strong allurements to love thee! Daign then dear Mistress of my heart, to entertain this unbidden Love of mine, and let not cruelty reign in that body, where beauty and vertue do sit introned. O torture me not with a flat denial, neither tantalize me with vain delusions, but grant me the free enjoyment of thy heart, which in equity thou oughtest to do; although it be only in exchange of mine which thou art possessed of.

Arabella with much patience heard him all this while but least she should seem too forward, she would at least appear so frostward as to tell him that for her part she had utterly abandoned all thoughts of Love out of her breast, and having nobly broken Cupids bonds, she desired not to come under his thraldom again: She therefore wished him to desist from his amorous humor, as if he were minded to persist, to place his affection on some more deserving person than her self.

William

William tobo though but a Justice in Love, yet perceived by her answer that it was so far from tending to a flat denial, as it gave him more hopes to prosecute his suit; for he was not so ignorant in the art of Love, but that he knew, a womans tongue and heart were not feilables, and that they would seem to push away that with their little finger, which they would willingly pull back again with both their hands he therefore prosecuted again his suit in these words:

Let not my dearest *Arabella* say so, and condemn love for one mans miscarriage what should the Marriner refuse ever to venture again, for being once ship-wrack'd! or should the wrestler forswear that exercise because he once received a fall; think not dear Love all men are wavering, nor let not one mans unfaithfulness condemn the whole sex: 'tis true, we read that *Demophion* was false, but *Theagines* was constant, *Antus* was disloyal, but *Pyramus* true to death: Set therefore the ones faith against the others faults, and let the virtues of the one ballance the vices of the other; though *Ralph* was unconstant, *William* will prove faithful, though all men should prove false, yet would I continue true.

Arabella though she judged her self deceived before in *Ralph*, yet was by these words brought into such a confidence of *Williams* integrity, that she had almost yielded up the Fort, and revealed the affection she bare unto him; but upon better consideration, she resolved to make a further tryal of his loyalty, and by a moderate delay have a sure proof of his constancy, she therefore returned him a dubious answer, which as it gave him no great denial, so did it not any ways assure him of her affection. For *William* (said she) you men are so apt to change, and so given to unconstancy, notwithstanding all your protestations, that we Maids are many times beguil'd by your willy snares, and whereas men accuse our Sex of fickleness, the fault is in them, for we only change our loves as men change their conditions; and are constant to them so long as they are true to themselves, yet am not I so out of Love with *Cupid*, but that I could willingly come under his subjection, could I meet with a Lover as true in deeds as kind in words, and therefore till I have had a further proof of your constancy, give me leave to wave any further conclusion.

With this Answer was *William* very well satisfied, hugging himself in his supposed happiness, that others should beat the bush, and he catch

The Honour of

catch the bird, not doubting in the least the obtaining of Arabella's love
and now his heart being merry, and taking care for nothing, as he
was one day at work, he began to sing a song in praise of his Trade as
followeth.

Of all the Trades that ere hath bin,
The Taylors doth most credit win,
For let them all say what they can
The Taylor is the only man.

Adam was the first o'th Trade
When he his cloaths of Fig-leaves made;
His skil in Trade then first appearing
To make cloaths for his and *Eves* wearing.

Your Gallant that so brave doth show,
It is the Taylor makes him so,
For when his cloaths are off, he then
Doth show like unto other men.

The Taylor hath the only sleight,
To make a crooked body streight,
With bumbast he their faults can cover,
One shoulder shows as high as tother.

A Taylor is without all danger
Admitted to a Ladies Chamber,
Where though she be never so chaste
He will take measure of her waist.

How should we but for Taylors do
When Northern winds so cold do blow,
Had we no cloaths to keep us warm
Those bitter blasts would do us harm.

Without them all things put together
We never should endure the weather;

Then

Then let them all say what they can,
The Taylor is the only man.

In this manner did William pass away the time in much jollity, having often secret conference with his dearest Arabella, so that now at last they began to draw towards some conclusion of agreement, and to think upon a prefixed time for the marriage day; when on a sudden all was broken off again, and this serenity of Air turned to cloudy and blustering weather, and that upon occasion as followeth.

There was living in the same house a Maid-servant named Dorothy, who had a long time been in love with William, but through a suddenly baseness had concealed the same. It chanced one time that she being in the next room where William and Arabella had a conference, she overheard their private discourse, and notwithstanding she might perceive by their talk that the business was near unto a conclusion, yet out of a womanish revenge, she resolved if she could not have him her self, to hinder any other from the enjoyment of him. She goes therefore first and acquaints her Master and Mistress with each particular circumstance, aggravating the matter, and twisting each word had been spoken to the worst sense, but this not prevailing, both Master and Mistress having a good opinion of William, and thinking their daughter might be worse bestowed. She went another way to work, for having by some means got an inkling how Ralph was served by the countess's Letter, she well hoped that would do the feat, and therefore the next opportunity that she found Arabella alone, she set her wits on the tenter-hooks to aggravate the offence, which she did after this manner.

I cannot but wonder Mrs. Arabella, nay pity your hard fortune, that you should be thus deluded in the placing of your affection, well did the Poets feign that Love is blind, nor discerning desert from dissimulation, or truth from treachery; is it possible that you could reject a Dove-like innocence, and receive a Snake into your bosom: That you could cast off Ralph's unfeigned affection to embrace William's disssembling carriage! O Gods how blind are we in our choice, how apt to believe fallacies for verities, how dull not to discern a truth from dissimulation; now to rectify your error, I could inform you of your mistake, but why should I counsel them that are obstinate, or speak

to them that I know will not hear, and yet how can I that love your welfare refrain to speak? or why should I be silent in a matter of so great moment, and yet sure better to do so then otherwise, since Counsel rejected is but cast away, and to speak to the deaf, is but lost labour.

These words she used, well hoping they would make Arabella the more inquisitive to know, and indeed she mist not of her mark, for the more the one seemed loath to tell, the more eager was the other to be informed, so that at last as it were enforced, (yet pretending it only a real affection unto her,) she declared how Ralph was utterly ignorant of that Letter which came to her hands, how it was of Williams contriving, only on purpose to beat her off of his love, highly extolling Ralphe's desertings, and as much extenuating Williams due desert. This news much astonish'd the fair Arabella. And is it possible said she, that treachery can lye hid under such a vail of modesty; can so fair a tongue have so foul a heart, or such sugred words serve only to candy over worse actions? O ye Gods why did ye create so false a thing as man, or not induce him with more reality, unhappy Arabella what unlucky Star govern'd at thy Nativity, or what ominous signs foreboded thy misfortunes; was I appointed to be fortunes May game, or destined for an example to others to beware of mens treachery; and yet why do I thus suddenly break forth into this exclamation, may not he be wrongfully accused, and I more too blame for being so over credulous, and therefore my dearest Dorothy I conjure thee to be silent in what thou hast told me; till time the father of truth shall make all things appear, in the mean space I shall not be idle to use my best endeavours in the prosecution thereof.

And now she began to look on William with a squint eye, her smiles were turned to frowns, discontent sat on her forehead, and all private entercourse laid aside betwixt them. In the mean time James Golden Trumpet had loudly sounded forth the heroick actions of Sir John Hawkwood and Ralph the Journeyman, none in the English Camp more daring then they, having performed many gallant adventures, insomuch that fortune seemed chained to their swords. This arriv'ing at the ears of Dorothy (as going often to the Market where news was stirring) she presently acquaints Arabella therewith, setting forth thir praises (especially Ralphe's) in so high a language,
and

and quaint demonstrations, as if she her self had been an eye witness, here would she describe a battle, the great strength of the enemy, the disadvantage of the place for the English, how fortune a long time favoured the French, and how at last the scales were turn'd, and victory pluck'd out of her hands as it were by main force, and all by the valor of these two renowned Champions, then would she show the honor attendant on victory, with what respects they were entertained wheresoever they came, how they carried the Goddess victory in triumph along with them, the whole Camp sounding forth their praises. This news as it tickled the ears of Arabella with delight, so did it cause in her a sudden discontentment for the loss of such two servants who had both of them expressed such love unto her, so that she began again afresh to renew her complaints, and to exclaim on fortune, when suddenly she was called to the door, a Messenger waiting for her there with a Letter, which when she had received, and knowing by the Character it was Ralphs hand, a modest blush died her cheeks into a vermilion colour, but having broke open the Seal, she found it to contain these words.

To that Paragon of beauty the renowned *Arabella*.

VWith what regret I have passed away the time since I have been absent from ye, as it is unknown unto you, so am I as utterly ignorant what should move you to such averfeness, for was it possible such deep promises, and solemn engagements, could be so suddenly broken off, without showing a reason why; certainly that Love had but a weak foundation, which should cause the whole structure so on an instant to fall; well may your Sex be accused of Levity if without any occasion you can so suddenly change; more fickle then the Weather-cock, which yet turns but according to the Wind, pray pardon the expression, since a sharp reproof is more wholesome then a flattering complement, and these times have more need of the Satyr then the Sonnet. If the remembrance of me be not quite banisht out of your memory, I should think it a happiness to hear from you; but if your affections have taken up another habitation, and all those mutual engagements betwixt us be utterly forgotten, yet this shall be my comfort that the

breach was not on my part, but that I can with confidence subscribe my self

Your faithful friend *Ralph*.

HAVING read the Letter and thoroughly considered each circumstance thereof, she then began to be fully confident that Dorothy had told her nothing but truth, so that the fire of revenge lay burning in her breast against William, yet did she for a while wisely cover it under the ashes of Dissimulation, until finding a fit opportunity, and that the heat of a storm was over, she then utter'd her mind to him in these words.

Treacherous man, thus to betray thy friend, and abuse me, with what confidence canst thou appear before me being conscious of thy own guilt; art thou not afraid the divine vengeance should pursue thee, as once the *Harpies* did *Phorus* the *Arcadian* King? Thou that canst counterfeit Love as well as letters, and must commence Doctor in the art of Dissimulation, whose words and deeds like *Janus* face look two several ways, having the Theory of honesty, but canst not abide the practick part, being like to the Apples of *Sodom*, which Historians say, are beautiful without, but dirt within, art not thou he whose pretensions to honesty were so large, as if thou wouldst ingross the whole Commodity to thy self; now out of that abundance wherewithal you are indued, pray tell me what point of honesty is that, by counterfeiting Letters to set the dearest friends at variance, to dissolve that band of friendship, which had been tyed together by so many solemn promises and engagements, away then false man, whose treachery hath made thee justly odious, and think with thy self if thy unworthy actions hath not made thee justly to deserve the hatred of all womenkind.

William would have replied something in excuse of himself and extenuating his crime, but Arabella would not suffer him to speak; False man (said she) and canst thou be so impudent, as to deny so apparent a truth, hast not thou more cause to blush and be ashamed at these thy perfidious actions, with what confidence canst thou look upon the Sun, who is a witness to thy falsities, or how dar'st thou behold the light, for discovering thy impieties; What hopes is there that he will be true to me, who hath deceived another; or what trust is there to be reposed in him who hath been once found treacherous, is not a noted Lyar justly suspected when he speaks an unlikely truth; and do not we commonly condemn them of theft, who have

have been once guilty of stealing; how then can I think thou wilt be true to me, who hast been false to thy friend, or imagine thou wilt deceive no more, when thou hast deceived already. O no, may I never be pittied for my misfortune, if I will not beware having so fair a warning, henceforward therefore, expect no more from me then the courtesie of an enemy, since by thy treacherous actions, I have forgone so worthy a friend.

Having utter'd these speeches away she went in a rustian hume, leaving William much perplexed at her words; for his Presentship now drawing towards a conclusion, he intended as soon as it was out to have married and set up for himself, but this unexpected answer of Arabella, quite alter'd the scene of his whole affairs, so that he was now a new to seek what course to take, much did he wonder how she came to know of the Letter, imagining many, but never mistrusting the right party that told her, for Dorothy though she had rais'd this storm behind his back, yet still carried calm weather in her face towards him, hoping if he was once quite off with Arabella, he would be induced to come on with her; but though she effected the one with ease, the other was hard to compass, for William by this answer of Arabella, was grown quite out of Love with all women-kind, in so much that in detestation of the Sex, as he was at work one day, he breathed out this

Who hopes to find a woman kind
is like to loose his labour,
'Tis like to bagging up the wind
or playing on a Taber,
The one small profit comes thereby
The other yields less melody,
In either there's no sayer.

Why should I then repine, or once
sigh, cause my Love doth leave me,
Since she was born for th' very nonce
on purpose to deceive me,
A woman flatters if she smiles,
If weeps, her tears are Crocodiles,
Which ten times worse will grieve thee.

CHAP. IIII.

Dorothy seeks to gain *Williams* Love, how *Ralph* and *Arabella* were reconciled and a Marriage concluded betwixt *William* and *Dorothy*.

Dorothy having had knowledge how the match was broken off betwixt *William* and *Arabella*, she began to set her wits on work how to draw his affection unto her, loath she was to discover her love to him in plain terms, yet willing she was he should know she loved him; many baits she used, and several Engines she set on work for that purpose, but all would not do, *William* either knew not, or at least would not seem to know her meaning; but notwithstanding these *Remoza's*, she would not give over her Projects so, but resolved to bait her hook with severall ingredients, hoping at last she should bite, her next device therefore was to reveal the same to him by a third person, to this purpose she acquainted a trusty friend of hers with the Project, giving him instructions how to proceed therein, who in a little space found a fit opportunity to speak unto *William* thereof, but so covertly, and in such fit words, that the device was not in the least perceived, for having gained from *William* by his discourse that when his time was out he intended to go from his Father, he then perswaded him to take upon him a Partridge life, extolling it highly, and setting forth all the priviledges that a Married man enjoys above a single person; and having as he thought wrought him into a good opinion of that kind of life, he then commended *Dorothy* to him as a fit person to make a wife on, highly commending and extolling her rare perfections both of body and mind, but *Williams* thoughts were fixed upon another object, and though he gave him the hearing, yet minded not to follow his counsel however he thanked him for his advice, but told him Marriage was a matter of so high a concernment as required some deliberation, that for his part he intended to do nothing rashly, since hasty Marriages were most commonly soon repented of, yet he would take time to consider thereof, and therefore for the present desired him to make no further discourse of it.

In the mean time Sir John Hawkwoods name grew famous in France, for like a true Hawk he seldom miss of his prey, nor did the Taylors sherts clip the wings of his fame, but by his valour he made his Trade renowned, so that the most noble persons in the Army desired his acquaintance, for by his ingenuity he attained to such perfection in Arms, that his rules were held for Maxims in the art military. The King also to honour him the more gave him a Coat of Arms significant to his name, which was a Hawk flying in a Wood, with a Upon and Griffen for the supporters. Ralph also was for his deserts raised from a Sergeant to be a Lieutenant, who by his courteous and debonepre carriage purchased to himself the love of the Soldiers, and other inferior officers.

But the fair Arabella was much perplexed with the thoughts of the wrong she had done unto Ralph, so that the grief thereof brought her into a sickness, and that so deadly, that notwithstanding all means used for her recovery, her Parents began to despair of her life; for the Doctors were ignorant in her disease, and therefore the less able to prescribe her a Remedy, and though she were often urged by her friends if Love were not the cause of her distemper, yet would she confess nothing, but kept all to her self, and to blind them from knowing the Original of her malady, she imputed it to an excessive cold, she had gotten by walking late in the fields, and now her sickness increasing, she indeavour'd all she could to put the remembrance of Ralph out of her mind, but the more she indeavour'd it, the more did it come into her memory, and now that Love which a while ago, was in a manner quite quencht, began to burn more then ever before; no rest could she take, it being now a stranger unto her, her chief companion was sorrow and trouble. In this languishing condition she resolved to send a Letter to Ralph, to ease her heart, and to clear the misunderstanding that had been betwixt them, which Letter contained these words.

To her faithful friend *Ralph*.

IF a fair acknowledgement may serve the turn for the wrong I have done ye, here you have it under my hand, I shall not say much in my own excuse it was my too much credulity; that was my fault; a
counterfeit

counterfeit Letter written by *William* under your name was the cause, his obtaining of my Love was the design, but upon the discovery, my just hatred towards him proves to be the effect. Thus have you in short the cause of our breach, if a fair reconciliation may succeed this acknowledgement, I shall willingly imbrace it, and as I was the first that committed the fault so am I the first that offer reconciliation,

Your disconsolate friend *Arabella*,

This Letter he sent as fast as he could, which when Ralph had received, and read ever he much marvelled at the strange carriage of things, highly resenting Williams fraud, and not altogether excusing Arabella's credulity; for though if it had been true, he had been eternally rejected, yet to cast him off upon the first surmizal without further proof, he thought was hard measure however he imputed it only to her circumspection, wherein we cannot be too careful, when the bargain extends to the length of our lives, and therefore he resolved to send her a comfortable answer, which would be a better cordial to her than the best Physician of them all could prescribe. His answer was contained in these words.

My dearest *Arabella*,

Wonder not if in reading over your Letter I was stricken into astonishment for who could have imagined such falsehood could have been found in *William*, what faith can be given to foes, if friends prove thus false; or what confidence can we repose in strangers, if household acquaintance thus degenerate; and yet take it not ill (my dearest *Arabella*) if I blame you for light belief, did you think I would falsifie that faith I had so solemnly engaged unto you or did you imagine the sight of another face would make me alter my affection; No, far be such thoughts from taking up their lodging in my breast, and may I for ever be estranged from giving harbour to such thoughts; since then thou hast proffer'd a reconciliation (although there was never no breach on my side,) I willingly imbrace it; and as it is said of broken bones that being once knit again together

ther, they grow the stronger, so I hope our friendship by this breach, will be the more strongly cemented and durable hereafter, and that it may be true of us what the Poet once sung, *Amantium ita amoris, redensie gratia est.*

Yours constant till death *Ralph.*

Having sealed it up and ready to send away; he often kissed it in stead of the party it was directed unto; ah blessed paper (said he) which shall kiss the hands of her that commands the very all of my being; how do I envy thy happiness which shall be admitted whether my present occasions will not permit me to come, how will thy whiteness appear to be sullied, when it comes to be near her more whiter hands? Now if thou attainest to that honor, that after thy reading thou beest admitted unto her bosome, being so near her heart, to form it how true and faithful I have been unto it, what sorrows I have endured since it was estranged from me, and how happy I count my self in its return unto me, so fare thou well dear paper, and maist thou be the messenger of as much comfort unto her, as heart can wish, or tongue express.

Arabella having received this Letter and read it over was greatly satisfied therewith, so that now her thoughts being free from those perturbations which lately afflicted them, her body began also to participate with her thoughts, and to recover that loveliness which before it had lost, she that but now was so weak of strength as unable to stir a foot, could now walk about the house without any supporter, fresh roses budded in her cheeks, which before were pale and wan, and beauty which ere while lay a dying, began now to appear in its fullest lustre, which had been a long time a stranger unto her, began now to be her familiar, and all things tended to a perfect recovery, such a strong influence hath Love over our looks, that it can kill and cure, according as an affection shall use.

And now the time of Williams apprenticeship was out, when perceiving no hopes of regaining Arabella's affection, he likewise resolved to go over into France, to try his chance in Fortune's Lottery. This his resolution being made known unto Dorothy, very much perplexed her, fearing that after all the pains she had taken to win him, she should

should now lose him at the long run; but being of an indefatigable spirit, and not daunted at any disaster, she took up a resolution to impart her mind unto him her self, and either disswade him from his intended journey, or draw him to a better opinion of her Love; to this purpose, the next Holy-day she invited him to an Ant of hers, who lived at Islington, and sold Cakes and Ale; William very kindly accepted of her proffer, and went along with her, where he was very merry, and drank freely, and now being something elevated, and that the liquor began to operate in his Crown, he (according to the custome of most young men) began to throw out some jesting words of Love to Dorothy in this manner.

In such Mistress *Dorothy* I much marvel that so rare a beauty, and such excellent gifts of mind, should continue so long without a husband, but you Maids are indued with such self-denying principles, that you will seem froward, although men be never so forward; and yet let me advise ye not to be so coy, for beauty is but a fading flower and the time of our youth soon posseth away, and if you defer till such time as the mark be out of your mouth, in troth for ought I know, you may go along with the rest of the company, to that ridiculous employment of leading Apes in Hell.

Dorothy seeing him in this merry humor thought it was good striking whilst the Iron was hot, wherefore she embraced the present opportunity, and thus replied.

Then I hope *William* you that are so wise in counselling others, will not be unmindful of your self, but take time by the fore-top, before age steals upon you undiscerned and yet methinks if your mind were to bend, you might have *English* beauties enough whereon to fix your affection, that you should not need to ramble into *France*, but you perhaps will say, it is not *Venus* but *Mars* invites you thither, & that you'de fight more in arms then in amours; that a Souldiers life merits praise, and that honour is the reward of Valour; suppose this were true, but how many dangers must you run thorow before you attain to what you propose; how few be there that attain it, how many thousands are their that perish in the pursuit of it? and besides are not the private Souldiers them that endure the heat of the battle, and yet, do not the Commanders carry the honour of the day, I omit here the dangers of the Sea in your passage over, the indisposition of your
body

body by reason of a different climate, the tediousness of sickness when absent from friends, with a thousand other things which I might alledge, every one of them of sufficient weight to alter your mind from your intended journey, but suppose you could overcome all these difficulties, and escape all the dangers I have here spoken off, yet what is your aim in all this, but that having run thorow so many hazards, you would then desire to live in peace, and that the Sun of your Life should set in a calm evening, and why may not you as well live in peace now, without exposing your self to all those hazards, when (as I said before) not one in a thousand that doth attain to his proposed ends, for though death be not far off from any one of us, yet is he alwayes reservert at the Souldiers elbow; my counsel therefore to you is, to settle your thoughts and affections here in *England*; for a trundling stone never gathers moss, and a rambling mind is never in quiet.

But said *William*, it is travail that accomplishes a Man, makes him fit for discourse, and gains him experience in the affairs of the world. O how dull and rustical are they who never went further then the smook of their own Chimneys, fit only to discourse of the Plough and the Flail; Then for a Souldiers life, what greater honour then to fight in defence of his King and Country! and for the perils you speak of, that are incident to the Wars, the Poet gives you a sufficient Answer.

*What danger comes to him whom walls of Iron
Both back and breast, and also head environ.*

For the dangers of the Sea, indeed they are many, and yet who can promise themselves security on Land; nay, doth not Death triumph far more on Land then at Sea, although the Sea be more spacious then the Land, and if a man be destinied to be drown'd, what matter is it, when he is dead, whether he become food for fishes, or a feast for the Worms. Then for the inconveniency of being in a strange Country, to a wise man every Land is his own home, and should sickness surprize us, no Nation so barbarous as to wrong those who are not able to right themselves, when many times at home we suffer that by the neglect of our kindred, which a stranger out of a Christian compassi-

on will not suffer to be offer'd unto us. But the main business you drive at, is (I suppose) that by marrying, and settling my self to my vocation, I might enjoy the pleasures of the world, live at home in quiet, and content my self with only hearing what others do; indeed Marriage is an honourable state, and if a man meet not with the honest wife, a honorable state likewise, sith then our wives are thick sown and thin come up, I mean to fetch a ramble, to see if such creatures live in other Countries.

Introduce *William* (quoth *Dorothy*) perhaps there you may be fitted, and have one as dear bought as far fetcht, which though proverbially it be good for Ladies, yet I think by consequence you may speed better nearer home, for going so far, though your ware be light, yet for ought I know it may prove dear of the carriage. And why so addicted to the mode of *France*; are our English beauties so contemptible, or are they not rather the glory of their Sex, for why else is it so commonly spoken that to the making up of a compleat woman, there is required the parts of a Dutch-woman from the girdle downwards, the parts of a French-woman from the girdle to the shoulders, over which must be placed an English face to the perfecting of all the rest: And therefore *William* if your mind be more addicted to the tail then to the top, I should rather advise you to go unto *Holland* then *France*, where (if the saying be true) the women are most compleat, and if you fear to venture on marriage state for fear of horning, of all women have a care of the *French*, who (they say) are as full of fire, as the Dutch-women are of Ice.

Up it is time the Sun began to draw towards his Western home, so that *Dorothy* seeing she should let the time slip without speaking any thing to the purpose, she therefore began to draw nearer to him, and with a well composed countenance spake as followeth.

But suppose *William* you could light of a Maid to your mind, one whose features and fortunes would be equivalent to you, could you be so cynical as to refuse such a match? is not a wife a second self, a bosom friend, a rich Cabinet wherein a man may lock up his secrets; a partner with him in all sorrows and cares, a true friend in time of need, a yoke-fellow to draw with him thorow the cumbersome cares & perplexities of this World? I might enlarge my self very much on this

this matter but the thing is so apparent as without all contradiction, unless it be by such women-haters as that cynical Philosopher *Diogenes*, who being asked when it was best time to marry, replied, for young men it is too soon, and for old men it is too late, inferring thereby it was not good to marry at all; but this we must take as spoken by *Diogenes*, who had not the application of Dog given him for nought, for should all be of his mind the World would be a desert within these hundred years. And therefore *Will* am let me advise ye, as one that loves ye well, to give over this project of travelling, which can be no wayes advantageous unto you, and to think upon some person of whom to make a wife, for certainly no Maid (if at least she be of my mind,) that will refuse to joyn with you in marriage.

These words were spoken home to the purpose, so that William could not chuse but take notice of her meaning; and therefore now his hand was in, and that the fair Arabella was quite out of his mind, he suddenly replied, then in troth Mrs. *Dorothy* I shall take you at your word, and since it is said few words to a bargain are best we will make no long circumstance about the matter, for you are she I shall pitch upon to be my Bride. *Dorothy* by her silence gave consent, and so with a kiss they clapt up the bargain. But the next morning after William had slept, and thoroughly considered of what he had done, he began to repent himself that he had been so hasty, and though he meant to perform his promise, yet he resolved first to go over into France: This his resolution he imparted to *Dorothy*, who endeavour'd all she could to perswade him to the contrary: but upon his promise that he would return in a short time, with deep protestations of his fidelity unto her, she at last gave her consent, so having provided all things ready, he took ship, and having a prosperous wind he in short time arriv'd in France.

CHAP. V.

How *Sly* the Lawyer was deceived in
his Bedfellow by the means of *Doro-*
thy.

There was an old Country Lawyer named *Sly* that was near of
kin to *Dorothes Waffer*, who coming to London every Term,
to save charges used to lye there, this Lawyer was a stale *Witchelloz*,
but very lecherous, and yet so penurious that he was loath to be at
the charges to maintain a wife, for he thought it was more saving, not
to keep a Colw of his own, so long as he could have a quart of Milk for
a penny. Now it was his chance to be at London soon after that
William was gone into France, and Dorothy using to tend on him in
his Chamber, the old Leacher thought to draw her to his will; and
having presented her with some slight gifts, more gaudy then costly,
he at last brake his mind unto her, promising her Mountains if she
would fulfill his desire. Dorothy at first gave him very snappish an-
swers, threatening to make his business known to her Waffer, but the
Lawyer still persisted in his suit, adding still more gifts to the former,
so

so that at the last as overcome she seemingly condescended unto him ; and promised the next Night when her Spatter and Mistrels was in bed to come and lie with him ; The lecherous Goat was overjoy'd at these words hugging himself in his supposed delight , and persuading himself that she meant unfeign'dly. But Dorothy against the appointed time, had provided him a bedfellow which proved very little to his content. There was a deformed lame woman which used to do the drabbery belonging to the house, this Creature had Dorothy persuaded to act her part, and gave her instructions how to manage it herself, greatly charging her not to speak to him for fear of discovery, which she might well do under a veil of modesty, and so having taught her her lesson- at the time appointed she conducted her to the Lawyers Chamber , who was gotten to bed with a longing expectation of Dorothy's company, but now hearing the Chamber door open , and the woman coming to his beds side, his heart was overjoy'd, and putting his arm out of the bed, clapt it about her neck , and gave her a kiss, saying. Now I see *Dorothy* thou art as good as thy word, come prethee make hast and pull off thy cloath, for I have kept thy place warm against thy coming. The woman was soon unready and went into the bed, but when the Lawyer began to embrace her , he thought he smelt an ill savour'd savour, and therefore he said , prethy Dorothy what hast thou been doing off, thou smellest so strong of Kitchen-stuff I am not able to endure, good sweet-heart go to the window, where stands a glass of Rose-water wherewith thou maist make thy self sweeter. The woman hereupon rose out of the bed , and went to the window, intending to make her self all honey for the Lawyer, but instead of the Rose-water, she took up an ink-glass, and potting it into the palm of her hand, she rubbed therewith her face, neck and breasts, wherewith she made her self so amiable, that had it been in the light, she would have frighted the Lawyers leachery away, having done this, she went to bed again, and though she were not much the sweeter, yet the heat of lust made him bear with all ill-savour'd smells, now just against the time they should rise, Dorothy went and called up her Spatter, Mistrels and Arabella , telling them the Lawyer lay a-dying , and that he was just now giving up the Ghost, whereupon half unready they ran to his Chamber with all the speed they could : the Lawyer and his bedfellow were much frighted at this sudden intrusion , but when he had drawn the Curtain,

and



and saw what manner of Creature he had lain with all night, he began to cry out, the Devil, the Devil; Arabella, with her Father and Mother were as much frighted, thinking it had been the Devil indeed but when they heard, the woman speak calling him old lecherous rogue, with all the Billingsgate terms she could reckon up, they then perceived who it was; whereupon their great fear was turned into an excessive laughter; Dorothy who had practised all this mischief, was now most buxie in laughing at it, but the Lawyer was so ashamed, that getting up, he bid them adieu, and never after that time came to the house any more.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

William kindly entertained in France by Sr. John Hawkwood, Ralph challenges him to fight, and upon discontent returns into England.

William having prosperously arriv'd in France, went the next way to the English Camp, being conducted thither by the trumpet of Fame which loudly sounded forth their Heroick praises; where he found Sr. John Hawkwood like the Son of Bellona, intentive upon his partial affairs, instructing his men in their Military postures, and shewing them both how to receive and avoid the Shock of the Enemy. But upon the coming of William he committed his charge to the managing of his Ensigne, (for Ralph upon some necessary occasions was then absent from his company) and kindly entertained his old companion, being as familiar with him, as when they used to sit cross leg'd on the Ship-board together; for he was free from that haughty pride which now adorns possesses some of our upstart Gallants, who being raised from a low, though but to an ordinary fortune, forget not only their old acquaintance, but also themselves.

After some repast, William acquainted him with the passages betwixt himself and Arabella, yet pretending that what he said, was only in revenge of the denial she had given to Sir John, and not out of any hatred to Ralph, although (said he) he cast him off: (for both he and Sir John were still ignorant of their reconcilments) and the effect (said he) I desire that Ralph should not know thereof. But whilst they were thus discoursing, Ralph came in, who seeing William, and remembering how by his means that storm of disunion had been raised betwixt him and Arabella, the fire of revenge that sparkled out of his eyes, and flaming his sword, false man said he, now shall thy life pay for thy treachery, and there withall offered to strike at him, but Sir John Hawkwood interposed betwixt them, and laying hold on Ralph, commanded him to put up his sword, or else (said he) you will force me to draw mine; what is this your valour to strike

an unarmed man: or is this your greatest courteſie to welcome an old companion? Noble Captain ſaid Ralph, if you knew the falſehood that was lodged in that breaſt, you would think his life too ſmall a recompence to expiate his faults; but (ſaid Sir John) paſſion is no competent judge of mens actions, and to buſſo your knowledge upon hereſay cannot be good, ſince miſreport hath wronged many; defer your quarrel therefore till you are fuller ſatisfied of the grounds of it, and if William hath done you wrong, no doubt but he will acknowledge it, and giue you ſatisfaction.

Ralph herewith as haſt perſwaded, but principally becauſe he could not do otherwiſe, in the preſence of his Captain put up his ſword, reſtoring his rebenge till another ſeaſon, and ſo without ſpeaking any more words he went his way; Sir John Hawkwood perceiuing that Ralphis malice was ſinplacable, perſwaded William to liſt himſelf under ſome other Captain, till ſuch time as he had gotten ſome experience, when he would not be wanting to uſe his beſt endeavour to giue him preferment; William according to his directions went and liſted himſelf under that renowned Champion Edward the black Prince, where in a ſhort ſpace through his induſtry, and Sir John Hawkwoods good word, (who loved him entirely) he attained to an Enſigns place. This bereft Ralph to ſee his Rival advanced, ſo; where enuy is harboured in the breaſt of a man, he takes anothers good to be his hurt, and now his only ſtuddie was rebenge, but wanting other means to effect it, he ſent him a challenge in theſe words.

If thy heart be as good to fight as it hath been to invent miſcheif, then meet me to morrow morning at thy own appointed place and weapon, where I ſhall attend ye, to revenge thoſe injuries and affronts offered unto me, and to the fair *Arabella*, which if thou ſhalt reſuſe to perform, I ſhall proclaim thee a Coward, and not fit to bear Armes, or to uſurp the name of a Souldier.

Ralph

William having receiued the challenge, was very much diſcontented, ſo; though he was of an inſinſible courage, not dreading any danger, yet being conſcious to himſelf of the injury he had offered to

Ralph,

Ralph, he could willingly have taken the challenge might have been waived; yet being loath to undergo the aspersion of a Coward, he resolved what ever happened to undertake it, and thereupon returned him this answer.

Lieutenant Ralph.

What passion moves you to these extremes I know not, but feeling you will needs be so fool hardy as to venture a Duel upon it, your challenge shall be answered, and since you have put it to me for the choice of the place and weapon, I shall appoint the field on the North side of the Camp for the one, and back sword for the other; so till I see you farewell.

William.

The next morning according to appointment they met, with a full resolution the sword should end all differences betwixt them; but Sir John Hawkwood having some inkling of the business, was in the field as soon as either of them, where seeing them come fully resolved to fight, he spake unto them in this manner.

What desperate folly, or madness rather, hath thus bewitched you; as I am not of your counsel, so I wish it had never come to my knowledge; If your stock of valour be so surpassing great, bestow it upon the common enemy, and let it not be employed to private disadvantage; there you may fight your belly full with honour, whereas here he that gains the victory purchases only disgrace and danger; what is your feud so deadly that nothing can wash it away but blood? or is your malice so irreconcilable, that the breaches may not be made up again? is life of so little worth to throw it away thus idly; and doe you set to flieght a price of your souls; as to hazard them thus for a thing of nothing? what, is there no other remedy but that one of you must dye, and can death only make expiation? If you can no better command your own passions then thus, you will never be fit to command others.

Whilst Sir John Hawkwood talked thus to them, there was an alarm in the Camp, for the French *ma brabado* appeared with a

whole body of Horse, whereupon Sir John Hawkwood commanded them to their several charges, which they obeyed, so that the publick danger, put off at that present this private Duel. The English Commanders were soon ready to receive the French, who came on in a full career, but being repelled at the first shock, they ran away with



greater speed then they came. The noble Hawkwood who dreaded no danger when his presence was requisite, received some wounds in this skirmish, as indelible characters of honor; both Ralph and William in their several stations performed gallant service, so that malice which before was a poison, here proved a cordial, when both parties in emulation strived who should do best against the common Enemy. But the French seeing themselves thus beaten by the English, desired a peace, offering to King Edward such propositions, as conduced both to his Honour and profit, which after some small canvassing were accepted, and the peace ratified on both sides; so that now the Camp
break

break up, and all that would might depart home. But the Generous Hawkwood not loving to lye idle when any action of Honour was to be performed on the Worldes Theatre, hearing that there was warres in Italy, resolved to go thither, many gallant English men who thirsted after honour, joyning with him in his resolution, but none more forward to go then William, whose valiant mind still thirsted after glories prize: The noble Hawkwood who commanded in chief in this expedition, advancing him to the degree of a Captain, which Ralph so stomached that he could by no means be induced to joyn with them in that expedition, but taking his solemn leave of Sir John Hawkwood & the rest of those valiant sonnes of Mars, he returned into England, where he was received with great joy of his Master and Officers, but especially his most dearest Arabella, to whom in a short time after he was solemnly married, to both their great contents and pleasure,

CHAP. VII.

The valiant Acts of Sir *John Hawkwood* in Italy and how he married with the Daughter of *Duke Barnaby*.

THe renowned Merchant Taylor Sir John Hawkwood, having now compleated his army, consisting of six thousand Horse and Foot, took his march towards Italy, making great spoyle all the way he went in the East parts of the Kingdome of France, his name carrying such a terror before it, as struck dead the hearts of all opposers, coming into Italy he joyned himself with the Marquess of Mountferrat, under whom he performed such noble services, as equalled if not exceeded that of the Antient Romans, he having an exceeding ripe and quick conceit, to force occasions, to execute his resolutions, and to make speedy execution, being also as occasion required, both hot in his fights, and notable for his delays, so that he soon grew to be the wonder and admiration of all that Nation for martiall Discipline.

Soon after Lionel Duke of Clarence, sonne to Edward the third King of England, came into Italy to marry the Lady Violenta, Daughter to Galeasius Lord of Millain, Sir John Hawkwood hearing thereof, resolved to make one in that royall solemnity, and thereupon

upon forsook the Marquesa, and attended the Duke to his marriage.

At which time Barnaby the brother of Galeasius had great wars with the State of Mantua, who having heard of the noble acts of Sir John Hawkwood, humbly desired his assistance, for he being himself a warlike Prince, had a great desire to make some cryal of the discipline & prowess of the Englishmen. Sir John accepted of his proffer, & in a short time gave such proofs of his manhood & valour, as made Duke Barnaby highly to admire him, defeating his Enemies in several skirmishes, so that those who before were almost Conquerors now became humble suppliants, and them who ere toble stood on high demands, now came to as lowly terms.

Duke Barnaby having now found by experience, that Fame was far short in the praises of the noble Hawkwood, he grew into such a liking of him, and that liking producing such love, that he greatly desired to have him his son-in-law, and thereupon bestowed on him in marriage his daughter Domnia, a Lady of a most transcendent beauty, and whose wit and eloquence ran parallel with her beauty, one in whom he found such facts as he lost in his Arabella, who could not choose but be loved, being all lovely, one of such a rare fortune and composition, that had the Trojan Paris seen her naked, he would have fought his Hellen of Greece for her.

This alliance being made in respect of his valour in war, was the occasion of the increase both of his pay, and of the renown of the Englishmen throughout all Italy: that a most puissant Prince in war, had not without sufficient cause to induce him, conceived so good opinion of the valour of a man that was a stranger, and for this cause his help was desired by all the Princes and free Cities of Italy. For at that time all martial affairs amongst the Italians were managed by mercenary forces and Captains.

But Prince Barnaby growing ungrateful for these many benefits received by the English men, the noble Hawkwood (notwithstanding their alliance) rebelled from him, and joined with their Enemies, giving thereby a shrewd turn of the scale to the other side, taking by force the strong Towns of Fuera and Banacanalo, with many other places of importance, all which he sold and disposed of at his pleasure; William under him acting his part so well, that he was promoted from a Captain of foot to a Colonel of Horse; and now new adventures

presenting themselves to their hands, they went to aid Pope Gregory, recovering for him many Cities and places of importance, which were revolted from his obedience: afterwards he aided the Florentines against the Pisans, doing such noble feats of arms, that the very dread of his name was enough to make his Enemies run, all Princes courted his friendship he having as it were charmed the Goddess Victoria to his side wheresoever he came: those who loved not his person admired his perfections, for virtue is alwayes attended on by envy, yet was he of such an affable carriage that he won both love and respect together: thus seated on the 'top of Fortunes wheel', we will leave him for a while to speak of Williams Return into England, and how he was entertained by his dear Dorothy.

CHAP. VIII.

Williams return into England, his proof of Dorothies constancy and how they were married together.

The renowned William having thus in Italy by his extraordinary valour, purchased to himself an honorable Character, being reputed (next to Sir John Hawkwood) the most experienced Commander of that age. He having now been absent from England the space of seven years, and remembering the promise he had made unto Dorothy, which was to return in a little space; knowing how far he had distated from that his promise, he therefore resolved with all expedition to return into England, and there withal acquainted Sir John Hawkwood with his determination, who was very loath to part with his company, being a person of an exquisite carriage and approved valour and therefore to dissuade him from his purpose he used these expressions.

William you are now mounting on the Theater of Honour, & have already gained an indifferent good blast in the Trumpet of Fame, but what should make you now leave off running, when you have almost attained to the Goale? what shall deter you now from the pursuit of that which hitherto you have been so forward in? what strange resolu-

resolution hath thus on a suddain al'ter'd your determination? what are you resolv'd to throw off the Name of a Souldier, and to take up that of a Lover; to abandon the Camp of *Mars*, and to follow the Court of *Cupid*: to put off your steele Co'st, and to put on a silken Robe: & will you thus bury your former honour, to lye in a Ladies lap: who have the tears of *Heckadile*, and the songs of *Syrinx* to enchant men from the pursuit of honourable Achievements: remember your self then *William*, and stain not the reputation of the noble society of Merchant Taylors, whose fame for deeds of Armes hath hitherto remained unblemish'd.

But no perswasions could alter the resolutions of William, who thought every minute a treasure, till he had enjoy'd a sight of his beloved Dorothy, and the more to keep at home, to leave of Sir John Hawkwood, he embark'd for England, whose fruitful banks he had not beheld in many years, and being favoured by Neptune and Eolus, having a fair wind and proper ballage, he in short time arriv'd at London, the happy Port where his wishes were directed.

Being come on Land, he resolv'd not to discover himself at the first instant to his beloved Dorothy, which he might well conceal, his countenance by the length of time, and difference of Climate, being much alter'd, He therefore went to a Tavern hard by, from whence he inform'd her by a messenger, that a Gentleman from a friend of hers in Italy, would gladly speak with her. Dorothy at the hearing of the news was much overjoyed, and promised the Messenger to be with him presently, which she accordingly perform'd, and entering the chamber where he was, being almost perswaded, yet not fully confident it was her dearest William, he began with kind words to bid him welcome home: but William with a counterfeit speech giving her to understand that she was mistaken, spake to her in this manner

I do not wonder (dear Mistres) that you are so mistaken, since many times before the like hath hapned, even by those who knew us both very well, the most percingest eye hardly discerning any difference betwixt us, either in height, phisogmony, couller of the hair or other outward part: long time were we acquainted together, our intimacy producing strong affection betwixt us; whether it were that likeness were the cause of Love, or what other motive caus'd the same I cannot tell: but so it was that in weal or woe, prosperity or
adver-

adversity, nothing could seperate us ; many times would he discourse to me of the love and affection passed betwixt ye, and of the solemn engagement he made to you for his quick return, blaming himself for not performing his promise, and resolving upon the first opportunity, when he had in some measure set his affaires in order to return unto you, which no doubt he had performed, had not Death by a cross accident cut him off in his determination, which hapned in this manner,

The Duke of *Millaine* had proclaimed a solemn Justs to be holden in the honour of his birth day, to which resorted many Knights and gallant commanders of great renown and valour, to exercise their skill in feats of Armes, in honour of their Mistresses ; at the time appointed none was more forward in those laudable encounters then your true and faithful Lover *William*, whose turn being to Just with an *Italian* Knight named *Lopenzo*, at the third encounter a splinter of the Knights Lance chanced to run into *Williams* Helmet, and peirced his eye-sight ; so that feeling himself mortally wounded, he desired to be carried to some place near at hand, where he might in quiet breath his last, which friendly curtesie I and some others performed for him, and now feeling the near approach of death, because of the great love and familiarity betwixt us, and of the near likeness of our person, he earnestly desired and perswaded me to think of no other wife but you, as the only maid in the world worthy to be beloved, for your noble constancy and high deserts, which whosoever shall not love, shewes himself to be a hater of virtue ; and therefore by that former affection betwixt you, desiring, and by the Authority of love commanding you, that the love you bore to him, you should turn to me ; assuring you that nothing could please his soul more then to see you and I matched together, wherefore according to his desire I am come (with faithful love built upon your deserts) to offer my self, and to beseech you to accept the offer.

Here he made a stop to hear what Dorothy should say, who first making much hearty sighs, (doing such obsequies as she could to her supposed dead friend *William*) thus answered him.

(Sir for the great love you shewed to my dear friend, I give you many thanks, but this great matter you propose unto me, wherein I am now so blind as not to see what happiness it shou'd be unto me, in the enjoy-

ment of so accomplisht a person: know Sir, if my heart were mine to give, you before all other should have it, but *Williams* it is, though dead, their I begun, their I end all matter of affection, I hope I shall not long tarry after him, with whose outward person had I only been in love with I should be so with you, having the same outward parts: but it was *Williams* self I loved, and love which no likeness can make one, no commandement dissolve, nor no death finish. And shall I then (said he) receive such disgrace as to be refused. Sir said she let not that word be used, who know your worth far beyond my merits, but it is only happiness I refuse, since of the only happiness I could or can desire, I am refused.

Scarcely had she spoken out these words, when not willing to hold her in griefs bonds any longer, but with his discovery to convert her sorrowful means to smiling joy, he ran to her, and embracing her, why then my dearest Dorothy, (said he) take and enjoy thy William, scarce could she at first believe him the truth, such strong impressions had the former story taken in her heart, but at last being thoroughly convinced, her joy so exceeded the bounds of reason that she could not speak one word; but was constrained through her new conceived pleasure to breathe a sad sigh or two into her Lovers bosome, who as courteously entertained her with loving kisses; where after these two Lovers had fully discoursed to each other the secrets of their souls, how Dorothy for his love had continued unmarried, notwithstanding the importunity of many and rich suitors; as also William of the dangers he had run through in his long peregrination, having refreshed their spirits with a glass of wine, they hand in hand went to her Masters, but the news was no sooner spread about the Town that William was come, but the Bells rung, and bonfires abounded, the journey-men Taylors left all their seats to welcome him home, and the Bachelors refused to work that day; Ralph notwithstanding the great feud formerly betwixt them, with his beloved Arabella came to give him a visit, all the whole talk of the City being only of William and his deserved praises. His Master and Mistress the next day made a great feast, to which was invited most of the worshipful society of Merchant-Taylors, and other wealthy Citizens, and not long after William and Dorothy were married, at whose wedding were most costly shows and triumphs, all
which

which I pass over, and return to speak of Sir John Hawkwood, whose noble achievements now calls my Pen to wait upon him.

CHAP. IX.

Amurath Prince of *Fez* seeks to get the Princess *Mariana* by treachery, they are shipwrackt at Sea, *Amurath* is killed whereupon ensueth war betwixt the Emperour of *Fez*, and *Ferdinando* King of *Cilicia*.

THe noble and adventurous Merchant-Taylor Sir John Hawkwood having by his skill in arms and fortunate success (as you have heard) grown to such renown that his name was famous throughout all Christendome, yet still thirsted after glories past, and to add to what he had already done, esteeming his past victories which he had won in those parts of the world as nothing, unless he also made his name redoubted by some famous exploit against the enemies of Christ, and that he might bathe his sword in the Pagans blood, and long was it not ere Fortune put a golden opportunity into his hands, to perform the same, which thus happened.

In the famous Country of *Cilicia*, a place much beholding to Nature for the extraordinary bounties she had bestowed upon it, there lived a King named *Ferdinando* who was a Prince endowed with many noble and virtuous customs; that had only one Daughter named *Mariana*, a Princess of a curious make, in whom Nature and education strove who should add most to compleat her the wonder of that age. This her beauty and superexcellent endowments being blazed abroad, seduced many of the neighbouring Princes to sue for her in marriage, but none more forward, nor deserved better then *Arnaldo*, Sonne to the King of *Candy*, so that her Father *Ferdinando* began to listen unto his suit, and knowing his Daughters affection chiefly placed on him, glad that she had made so good a choice, he so forwarded the same, that the day was appointed for the celebration of the Nuptials, to the great content of the two young Princesses, who now hoped to enjoy the fruits of their love,

Great were the preparations made for this royal wedding, not only for variety of cheer, but also for curious & costly pageants, which were devised after the rarest manner, but all this great preparation came to nothing, their wedding was in need to waiting, their songs to sighs, and their mirth to mourning, and his upon occasion as followeth.

A noight or her place where Sam had blazed abroad the predictions of Mariana, with Count of Carreut of Fez, whose only Son Amurath (a Prince of a valiant bearing, bold, & brave) thought her a prize worthy the looking after, and the more (having obtained leave of his father) he provided a fleet of Ships, for the bringing her home to Fez, having in conceit already obtained her good will, & which if he failed, he resolved to make up his Market by force; so that resolution he arrives in Cilicia, hoping for the greatness of his birth to be rather sued unto, to accept of Mariana, then that he himself should become a suitor unto her, but greatness without desert finds no place where goodness sits enthronized, for he having made known his love suit to the Princess Mariana, received from her a flat denial; which so exasperated his spirit, that now he breaths forth nothing but revenge, and long was it ere he found an opportunity to put his malice in execution, for having by his espials learned that the two Lovers, every evening at the shutting up of *Titan's* golden Gates, used to walk abroad to take the comfort of the Western breathing aire, he with a party of his followers suddenly surprized them, and carried them prisoners to his Ship, where being deaf to all entreaties, he hoisted sailes, and with as much expedition as could be made, sailed towards the Country of Fez, but the Heavens being angry at such wicked attempts, sent forth such a violent tempest on the sea, as made the stoutest spirit of them all to tremble. For the second day after their departure, rose as it were a foggie mist from out the seas, when on a sudden the clearness of the skyes might not be seen for the darkness of the air, dreadful flashes of lightning seemed to have set the seas on fire, and terrible boiles of thunder threatned the shaking of the Heavens, and sunning of the earth; showers of rain poured down as if there had been a general inundation, and the winds roared so boisterously from each corner, as if Boreas, Auster, Zephirus and Eurus had been at odds among themselves, or joined together for the destruction of their vessels; now were they at their wits end, neither seeing for the dark, nor hearing

ing for the noise, how any thing should be amended, and yet was e-
 very thing amiss; one while their ship was so high they scarcely can
 discern the hollow waves from aloft, another while they sink so low,
 they hardly can discern the tops of ober piercing billows from beneath:
 and though it were midday by the course of time, yet seemed it mid-
 night by occasion of the storm. How knew they not what to do, and
 yet was every one doing something: one plyeth the pump, until for
 weariness he fainteth, and he leaveth out water, until for weakness he
 fainteth: some pour forth their prayers, others frantically torment
 their own bodies, and some vow sweeter incense and oblations to the
 Gods; this man (in vain) repairs the cracking tacklings, and ano-
 ther at adventure renteth down the sails; here standeth one fast cling-
 ing to a loose board, there another clean shipped to abide his chance,
 every one disorderly doing that thing whereunto the extremity of his
 passion did presently direct him. In the mean time the two Robbers to
 be expected nothing but to be devoured in that merciless element, fer-
 vently committed their souls unto God, being as willing to descend
 into Neptunes bower habitation, as to go along with that Mahume-
 ran Prince, from whom they expected not the least favour. Amurath
 himself, who though hardened in villany, yet seeing the inevitable dan-
 ger he was in, began to shake with fear, and to repent of his treachery
 against the two Princes, all passions thus surrounded with despair, no-
 thing was expected but to have the Sea their grave, and to be devour-
 ed by the inhabitants of that watry element. In this tempestuous
 condition to will leave them for a while, and return to the Court of
 King Ferdinand, which upon the news of the Princesses capture,
 was stricken to a sudden astonishment, the King mourned, and the
 Nobles held down their heads: the Ladies lamented, and the Com-
 mons sighed: instead of musick and songs of triumph, nothing was
 now heard but groans and lamentations. O ye inhabitants of the Ce-
 lestial Mansions said the sorrowful King Ferdinand, why do ye suffer
 such impieties to be done? O why did I live to see this day, that the
 greatest comfort of my gray hairs, should become the chiefest object
 of my miseries? O restore to me my *Mariana* again, or take from
 me this poor remainder of my life, which without her company will
 be but irksome and tedious unto me. In this manner complained the
 woeful King, making the stones relent at his dolorous complaints;
 but

but Fortune that is constant in nothing but inconstancy, soon ceased his complaints, turned his mourning into melody, and his weeping and tears, into joy and laughter.

For about four dayes after, the lost couple were again heard of, being by this wreck cast upon the Cilician coast: for the Heavens being angry with Amuraths designe, manag'd what the Sailors could do, brought the Ship back again, and being by the force of the wind driven upon a rock near the shore, the Ship split in a thousand peeces, in this sudden exigency every one laid hold on something which might be convenient to the saving of themselves: there was one fast clinging to the mast, whose lofty height lay now belov'd with the waves, there was another fast grasping an empty chest which with ut Mars or Pilot did by degrees waite it to the shore, there another embracing a plank, making that his Asylum in so eminent danger, others whose skill in swimming made them more adventurous, committed themselves to the mercy of the Sea, being tossed on the waves like fortunes tennis ball, till at last those waves tolde them safe to land. The Prince Arnaldo whom no peril what soever could separate from his dear Mariana, desiring to be only for her sake, and yet to live without her would be worse then death unto him seeing himself surrounded by danger on every side, he began hardly to provide for his and the Princes safety, and the Gods being careful of their preservation, they happened upon a part of the side of the Ship, so long and large that they had room to sit thereon, and expect the event what Destiny had determined to do with them. Whilst thus on the Ark of providence they were waisting towards the shore, they espied Prince Amurath a stride on a piece of a broken mast, labouring with his hands to preserve himself from drowning, though being conscious of his guilt he expected to receive untimely entertainment where soever he should land, yet the sight of death was so terrible to him, that he resolv'd to prolong his life as long as he could. The Prince Arnaldo though seeing him in this foolish condition, yet could not forbear to speake thus unto him. Perfidious man (said he) now is thy treachery recompenced upon thy own head, though therewith thou maist glory of our ruine, which yet can be but small comfort to thee, when thou shalt carry such a load of guilt with thee to the other world. But scarcely had he uttered these words, when a billow parted them, so as hearing each other, by this

this time some of the Sea-kings had swam to the land and informed the Cilicians in what manner the princes were in, who thereupon maned some boates out, and taking the despairing lovers into them, they happily landed to their unspeakable comfort, soon after arrived Prince Amurath mounted in state on his wooden horse, but when the Cilicians understood it was he by whose treachery their Princess was carried away, like the enraged Grecian dames when they fell upon the sweet tongued Poet Orpheus, so did these people fall upon him; and notwithstanding Arnaldo did what he could to persuade them to the contrary, as being willing to have referred him to a farther examination, yet were his endeavors the vain, but like to his who goeth about to stop the Current of a stream when a it once overspows its banks; no prayers nor entreaties could stop their fury, never ceasing till such time that one had gotten an arm of him, another a leg, and another some other kind of limb, all which they disposing aboard as boat as the remarkable Trophies of their victory, and so barbarous was their cruelty, that with their stabs they never left belabouring the remaining part of his dismembered trunk, so long as they could perceive the least life or motion in it.

The news of this Shipwreck and the Princes safety came with a speedy sleight to the ears of King Ferdinando, which struck him into such an extasy of joy as could scarcely be contained in the bounds of reason, although it something displeased him that Prince Amurath was murdered in that manner; but his Daughters safety would not suffer any grief to enter into the Crannies of his heart, when joy had taken full possession thereof. But much belonged to have his eyes confirmed with the truth of the news his ears heard, and therefore taking horse, with some few of his Nobles, he suddenly posted down to the Sea-side; but to express the joy at the meeting of the King & the two Princes, is beyond the skill of my pen to declare, being a subject fit only for imagination, all words whatsoever wanting weight wherewith to express it; let it suffice to tell ye, that after some short stay and congratulation on both sides for this happy meeting, they returned again to the City of Adrianople, the place where King Ferdinando kept his Court, from whence the King speedily dispatcheth a Messenger to the Emperour of Fez, to excuse himself for the death of Prince Amurath. And now are great preparations made

again for the wedding, the King intending to have it solemnized in a more sumptuous manner than was before intended; but Fortune once againe crossed his designs, and turned his Scene of mirth into mourning, as we shall declare unto you.

For same had with speedier wings ore gone the messenger, and carried the report of Prince Amuraths death to Fez, before such time that he could get thither, representing the same to the Emperor in such a horrid garbe, as made it seem to be ten times blacker then indeed it was, for they not only added to the exquiliteness of his torments, but that all was done by the command of King Ferdinando, and that he himself was a spectator thereof: whereupon the Emperor in a Marvellous rage boyled by Mahomet that he would not leave one Christian alive in Cilicia, but order them all to be hanged to appease the Ghost of his murdered Son, and to perform his oath he raised a most puissant army, consisting of a hundred thousand men,



with which he suddenly landed in Cilicia, burning and destroying with

unspeakable cruelty wheresoever he came, neither for no? Age re-
 ceived any pity at his hands, no? place but felt the weight of his cru-
 elty; the hoar? head and the tender Virgin were alike destined to the
 sword: the Infants sprawled on the tops of the souldiers pikes, and
 wives were ravished befoze their Husbando? faces; the riches of the
 Realm were made the Spoil of the Souldiers, and all things tended
 to a general destruction, as well of the means to preserve life, as of
 life it self. To put a stop to such destructive proceedings, King Fer-
 dinando speedily raiseth an Army, and with great courage setteth up-
 on the Emperour, where betwixt them was fought such a bloody bat-
 tel, that the ground lay covered with slaughtered carcases, and the
 grass was changed from a verdent colour to a purple hue; Fortune was
 for a long while indifferent on which head to put the palm of victory
 on, such equal courage appearing on both sides, as if death were less
 feared then to be conquered. The Prince Arnaldo in whom the
 blossomes of courage began to bud, as having never been so sufficient-
 ly tryed befoze in the fields of Mars, knowing that this day must
 either be the loss of his Person, or the winning unto him perpetual re-
 noian; wrought such wonders with his sword, as would puzzle an-
 tiquity to find his paralel, for wheresoever he went he left such tro-
 phies of his manhood, as made the stoutest spirits of the Pagans to
 tremble; but multitude overcoming valour, engaging himself too far,
 his sword being glutted with Pagans blood, and his Arme ore wearied
 with slaying such multitudes, he was at last encompassed
 by those Mahumeteans, and managie whatsoever he could do, was by
 them taken prisoner; with whose loss fell the courage of the
 Cilicians, so that immediately they turned their backs and fled,
 and notwithstanding King Ferdinando did all that he could to
 perswade them to stay, yet his words found but deaf ears, so
 that seeing he had but a running auditory to save himself was
 forced to run with them for company, bringing sad newes to
 the City of Adrianople, of his own overthrow and their pre-
 sent danger, soon after this fatal fight, the whole County
 yielded themselves to the Emperour, saving only Adrianople
 aforesaid, which he strongly besieged. In this straight King Fer-
 dinando sent for succour to Sir John Hawkwood, as the most re-

The Honour 'of
notioned person for deeds of Armes then liuing upon the face of the



Earth, of whose successes and honourable atchievements we shall discourse in the Chapter following.

CHAP. X.

The terrible Battel betwixt *Sir John Hawkwood*, and the Emperour of *Fez*, which lasted three whole daies, the marriage betwixt *Arnaldo* and the Princess *Mariana*.

The Army of the Cilicians being overthrown by the Emperour of Fez, and King *Ferdinando* himself straitly besieged in the City of *Adrianople*, as you heard in the former Chapter: being not able to hold out long against those mighty Forces of the Mahumetans, he therefore (as we told ye) dispatched a Messenger to *Sir John Hawkwood*, desiring his assistance, in these words.

To

To the most renowned, and invincible *Sir John Hawkwood.*

JAMES golden Trumpet having proclaimed your matchless deeds to this our Country, as the only succourer of distressed Princes, the righter of wrongs, and overthrower of unjust oppression; this noble Character of your worth hath invited me to desire your aid against the Emperour of Fez, who hath unjustly invaded my Country with barbarous cruelty, killing and destroying all wheresoever he comes, threatening to extirpate the very name of Christianity out of my land, defer not therefore with all speed to hasten to my releif, whereby you shall not only win eternal renown, but also shall receive in reward of such high deservings, whatsoever you will desire, even to the half of my kingdom.

K. Ferdinando.

So soone had *Sir John Hawkwood* received this Letter, but pitched on with desire of honour in so just a quarrel, he assembled all his Forces together, being about twenty thousand brave English spirits, each of such skill as able to command an Army; to whom he made this following Oration.

Kind Souldiers, and fellow Country men, my companions in Arms, and sharers with me in all dangers, and successes; who by your valiant acts have eternized your names, and made your fame to sound as far as *Phœbus* darts forth his golden rayes, to you I speak who have been so often triumphant as if victory were chained to your swords, and good success hereditary to ye, whose hearts are so invincible as have found no Enemy unconquerable, no Fort unscaleable, no Way unpassable; who know not what it is to be conquered, nor to turn your back to the face of an Enemy. Now doth honour once more summon you to the exercise of your Arms in rescuing a Christian King from the fury of the bloody followers of *Mahomet*, who is ready to be delivered into their hands, if not timely releived by your unconquerable manhood; the King of *Cilicia* craves our assistance against the *Mahometan* Emperour of *Fez*, who hath burnt his Towns, razed his Cities, and slain his subjects, what though his men be many

the greater shall be the honour in conquering them, remember it is I that lead ye, who will never leave ye, but either bring ye off with fortunate success, or loose my life in the encounter.

This his Oration wrought such effects in his souldiers, that they all vowed to live and dye with him, and to follow him wheresoever he commanded them, whereupon returning the Messenger back again to King Ferdinando, that he would not fail to be with him as soon as possibly he could, he made all things ready for his Journey, and by speedy marches soon came to the confines of Cilicia, whether no sooner being come, but he sent King Ferdinando special notice thereof, encouraging him to a resolute defiance of those Barbarous Murtherers, and promising to give him a speedy supply of aid. Whereto he dispatched a Messenger to the Emperour, the effect whereof was as followeth.

That he desired him to desist from further prosecution of any outrage against the *Cilicians*, and to restore again to King *Ferdinando* those Places and Persons which he had taken; and then presently to depart the Land, or to expect what a just cause and a sharp sword could do against him. But so little wrought this message on the insulting foe, that he laughed both it and the messenger to scorn, asking him if his Master were well in his wits, and whether he had not need of a purge of Hellebore, to think with his small handful of men, to command the most puissant Monarch of the whole earth: but if he would be so fool-hardy as to offer to fight with him, he should be encounter'd with a part of his Army, whilst the rest should stand still, and look on to behold his overthrow.

These words of the Emperour being told in the English Camp, so exasperated the souldiers, that they breathed forth nothing but blood and revenge; it likewise set an edge on their Generals valour, to be thus affrontingly braved, although he cover'd it with more moderateness than the rash souldiers, who would incontinently have marched against him, but the noble Hawkwood, though he knew the contrage of his souldiers to be insupportable, yet would not rashly engage them in that fight, on the success whereof depended either the gaining of a King, or the irreparable loss of the whole Kingdom; he therefore smother'd his resolutions for the present, till time should give him a fitter opportunity to declare them, in the mean time he made provision against that fatal day, not only refreshing his souldiers, & supplying his Ammunition,

but

but also fortifying places that might be a safe retreat unto him if his army should be overpowered by the Emperours more numerous forces.

Having thus provided all things ready, he marcheth with his Army against the Enemy, who notwithstanding all his brags, raiseth his siege, to oppose him with his whole Army; whereupon King Ferdinando came out of the City, and with his small remainder of souldiers joined with the English, the noble and adventurous Merchant Taylor Sir John Hawkwood entertained him very courteously, but now was no such time for complement as action, both Armies being near to each other, therefore riding unto the head of his Camp, he spake to them in these encouraging speeches.

Brave sons of *Mari*, whose valour the world admires and dreads, now is the time come which ye so heartily desired, to avenge your selves on this miscreant Emperour for those contumelious speeches he uttered against us, and to make him know the difference betwixt saying and doing. Now must be tryed which will cut deepest of the Christians swords, or the *Sarazens* cymiters, I need not to tell ye the justness of our cause, and that victory is the attendant on valour, those are only spurs to prick forward the dull, and to sharpen the edge of the cowards courage, I know it is enough for you only to be shewn the face of your Foe, which being once done all words whatsoever is rather impediments to ye then helps.

For as the Emperour wanting on the other side to the encouraging of his souldiers, who riding up to the head of his Army, spake to them in these words.

This is the day renowned Captains and valiant souldiers, that by your manhood must put a period to this war, & take a full revenge for the loss of my son *Amurath*, ye have now only this handful of men to conquer, whose desperate condition hath enforced them to adventure their whole fortunes at one blow and like a dying candle to give one blaze more of valour before their extinguishment; their runing looks do promise us an assured victory, and an addition of honour to your unconquerable armes, march on therefore as to a surprize rather then fight, and let not one of them escape, but feel the fury of your revengeful swords.

These words being no sooner ended but the battel joined, the Christians Cross against the Mahumetans flag, but never was Eng-
lish

lish spawtix and Irish Grey-hound moze equally matched, the Christi-
ans making that good by their valour, wh^{ch} the Mahumetans had in
their number. Now to an death to appear in his greatest honour, each
place being strewd with the carcasses of slaughtered persons; here



lay one with a stream of blood issuing from his new received wound, in
another place a trunk without a head, bore armes and legs, to whom a
sharp sword had forced to take a sad farewell from their bodies; there
was another who would faine have run away, but that his legs were
entangled in his own girths, in such a diversity of manner death dyest out
his diet, as if he intended to invite the King of Beasts and Birds to feed
on the banquet. The renowned Hawkwood was evermore amongst
the thickest of his Enemies, dealing such blows with his sword, and
giving so many Mahumetans their deaths, as if he intended to over-
charge Charons boat in ferrying them over the Stygian river; nor
were

were the other English Captains wanting in their duties, but by their valours sent thousands of Mahumetan souls to inhabit in Plutoe's fiery Regions, yet still those Infidels held out with great obstinacy, not thinking for any danger, although they were ready to be carried away in streams of their own blood. In this manner continued they fighting, until night with his sable mantle had darkened the Hemisphere, and then more for want of light then courage, they retreated, the Christians to the City, and the Mahumetans to their Camp.

The Emperour seeing so many of his soldiers to have fallen that day by the hands of the Christians, would in revenge thereof, that night have put Arnaldo to death, whom he had left behind in his Tent under a strong guard; but his Captains doubting the success of the Battal and fearing a retaliation, perswaded him to the contrary. Next morning no sooner has Aurora usher'd in the day, but both Armies were again drawn into the field, and the signal being given, fell on again a fresh to their work of mankind's destruction: the thundring drums beat alarms of death, & the shrill Trumpets sounded forth many thousands that day their knell, honour, death & destruction surrounded the Mahumetans on every side; yet still their fresh number made more work for the Christians valour. The noble Hawkwood whom no danger whatsoever could daunt or make afraid, being mounted on a milk white Barbary Steed, nobly pranced amongst his Troops, encouraging the valiant, and checking the slow: and then charging into the thickest ranks of his Enemies, taught his soldiers by his example the way how to conquer. The Emperour on the other side did all that he could to uphold his soldiers fainting courages, using threatenings and commendations according as he saw occasion, so that the fight continued sharp on both sides till night again parted their camp, when they both retreated, the one into the City, and the other to his Camp.

Yet not withstanding this great effusion of blood, the next morning ere Phæbus appeared in that Horizon, they fell to it again as fresh as if they intended before they had done to glut the jaws of death. But Sir John Hawkwood intending to make short work of it, pressed so hard upon that side where the Emperour was in person, that at length he took him prisoner. Then might you behold a sudden change in his army some running this way, some that, and others throwing down their arms.

armes and crabling mercy, King Ferdinand who had behabed himself
 very gallantly during all the fight, now seeing the victory apparently
 on their side, fell down on his knees in the place where he stood, giving
 thanks to Almighty God for the same; then enquiring of the pris-
 oners for the Prince Arnaldo, and having received intelligence from
 them, he speedily hasted unto him; great was the joy received at
 the sight of each other, as those whose desperate conditions had given
 themselves over for lost, great Sir said the Prince, that my eyes do
 behold you again in safety, how infinitely am I bound unto the Gods:
 and as you have made my eyes happy hereby, so let my ears be blest
 with the news of the Princess Marianas safety, the King blessed cer-
 tifying him that she was well, as also giving him a short narrative of the
 present affairs, they both hasted to congratulate with Sir John Hawk-
 wood, who was very busie in entertaining of his royal prisoner, whom
 he used so courteously, and with such respect, that the Emperour could
 not but confess that he had met with a noble Enemy.

The Prince Arnaldo had no sooner fixed his eyes on Sir John
 Hawkwood, but he thought he saw in him the resemblance of true mag-
 nanimity, so that he thought himself happy by being a prisoner, thereby
 to become acquainted with so renowned a Champion, and prized his
 liberty at a far higher rate for being effected by so gallant a person.
 Dear Sir (said he) to whom I owe whatsoever I am at present, be
 pleased to accept of this mite of acknowledgment, till such time as
 Fortune shall enable me to make you more ample satisfaction. Re-
 nowned Prince (replied the generous Hawkwood) to whom all ser-
 vice is but duty, and for whom whatsoever is affected comes far short
 of your deserts, I must only attribute it to your goodness, to put such
 high acknowledgements upon my low performances, but rest assured
 whatsoever I am is wholly and solely at your command.

After some other short discourse passed betwixt the King and the Em-
 perour, the worlds bright eye Hyperion beginning now to draw to-
 wards his Western home, they prepared to return to the City of Adri-
 anople, the soldiers laden with spoiles, and throng'd with prisoners,
 was met by the women and children of the City, (for there was
 scarce a man left therein who was not either killed in the former
 battel, or now under service with King Ferdinand) with songs of
 Triumph, and other like rejoicings: the way where Sir John Hawk-
 wood

wood passed was strewed with roses and green herbs, every one extolling his flame to the skies, as the most renowned Hero of that Age.

The Princess Mariana, who during these three days had been at her supplications for the prosperous success of the Christians arms, refusing to eat one bit of bread all that time, receiving now the joyful tidings of the Emperours overthrow, and the Prince Arnaldo's release, she was so far transported with an over measure of joy, as for the present bereft her of the use of reason; for regardless of what attire she was in, and forgetting to refresh her body, which was now enfeebled for want of sustenance, not staying for a coach or other attendants, she hastily ran with the foremost to meet them. The Prince Arnaldo who thought each minute a year till he had a sight of his dearest Mistress, now seeing her coming, alighted from his horse, and as hastily ran for to embrace her; both parties remaining speechless for a time, being so overjoyed at each others sight, that their tongues wanted utterance to express it: but after some little time of pause, Arnaldo break silence, and thus speak to her.

I think my self happy most excellent Princess, that the Fates have so far prolonged my life, as once again to behold those Love-darting eyes of thine, and to enjoy again your most delightful Company, the deprivation whereof, was the greatest torment the Emperour could inflict upon me; without which, the most habitable place is but a desert, and all pleasure but vexation, and now what can I say more, but to desire that *Hymens* torch may burn clear at our wedding, and that the Sun of our happiness may not come to be Eclipsed again, by any disastrous accident whatsoever.

Renowned Prince, replied the love sick Mariana, that the Fates have restored us thus again to each other, how much are we bound to Providence, and next to that the renowned English General, of whose worth to speak, were to show the light of the Sun by a candle, Now I hope will a serene sky of comfort succeed those clouds of trouble, and our joy be the greater, and more refined, for having passed through these fires of grief and tribulation.

Then hand in hand passed they into the City, whether bringing come, no cost was spared for the entertainment of the English, who were welcomed in such a sort with feasting and triumphs, that

ing p n wants art to deferbe the same. And now King Ferdinando prepared a third time for the solemnization of his Daughters Marriage, hoping the States would be more propitious to him, then to put another Remora to the hindzance of the marriage. The Lords and Knights by the Kings appointment proclaimed a solemn Fasts to be kept at the same, which should endure for the space of three days, of which the renowned Hawkwood was chosen chief Champion. The appointed day being come, the Bride and Bridegroom were followed early that morning with divers sorts of rare and excellent Musick;



the streets were garnished with costly pageants, and the windows hung thickly with cloaths of Arras, all the way that the Bride and Bridegroom were to pass to Church, was strewd with roses, and other odoriferous flowers, the Bells in every Steeple proclaimed the peoples joy, and mirth abounded in every place. The King to honour the Feast the more, gave free liberty to the Emperour to walk at his pleasure, attended on by several of his own Lords that were prisoners. Great was the concourse of people from all Lands at this Royal Solemnity,

so that it was a wonder to behold how in so short a space, so many Gallants should be assembled together from so others parts.

And now the time of the day gave them notice to prepare themselves to go to Church; the Hymnecree was led by two Carols daughters, being appareled in a suit of flame coloured Taffaty, to signifie that he burnt in the flames of Love, the Princess Mariana was conducted by the famous Sir John Hawkwood on the one hand, and a Duke of Candy on the other; her apparel was a rich Gown of sky colour Tabbie, to signifie that her minde was as free from tie, as a clear sky is from clouds, The Priest having joyned them together in Hymens bander, they returned again to the Pallace, where was provided for them a most sumptuous dinner, wherein no cost nor art was spared, to set it forth in the best manner. The afternoon was spent in Musick and dancing, till such time as Morpheus summoned them to sleep.

Next morning the Tournament began, a fair large place being railled in for that purpose, wherein a stage was set up for the King and the Lords to behold the same, the first that entered the list was Sir John Hawkwood, mounted on a cole black steed, his armour of the same colour, denoting thereby a black day to all those that durst oppose him; he behaved himself with so much gallantry that he foiled that day above threescore Knights, to his high honour and commendations. The next day his Lieuteneant General (being also a Merchant Tayler) entered the lists, mounted on a Bay horse, his armour was red, having upon his Burgonet a plume of red feathers: he likewise behaved himself with so much valour and manhood, that he overcame above fifty Knights that day. On the third day ran many approved Knights against each other, wherein the English Officers behaved themselves so gallantly, that they won the prize away from all others. The King in reward of such high deeds, conferred on many of them the honour of Knighthood, & made Sir J. Hawkwood one of the principal Peers of his Kingdom, with a large annual stipend to maintain his state and dignity. The Private souldiers sold likewise largely of his bounty, so that every one commended the nobleness of King Ferdinando's mind, and thought their blood well spent where they found such great gratitude, all parties being thus well pleased, we will leave them for a time and return to discourse of Ralph and William, who were left at their Trades in London.

CHAP. XI.

The number of servants, an Inoble House 'e x by Ralph, how he encountred with Turnbul the great Scottish Champion, and how he built Blackwel-hall, and gave it to the City of London.

You may remember the last time we speak of Ralph, we left him married to his Masters daughter, the fair Arabella: since which time his father in law dying, left him his whole estate, his customers also encreasing very much, he was forced to take more Apprentices, and to entertain a number of journey men, by whom he was waited on to Church as a petty Prince, for he had fifty prentices, and threescore and ten journey men, so that he spent an Or a week in his house and a hoghead of beer every day. His hospitality was so great, that there was more meat given away each day at his door, than many rich people spend in their houses. He was likewise partner in divers Ships at sea, which traded for Merchandize into several Countiees, by which means in short space he attained to a very vast estate.

It happened at that time that the King of Scotland invaded England in hostile manner, killing, burning, and destroying, all wheresoever he came. He brought with him a great Gyant or Champion, called Turnbull, for that in his youth he had killed a fierce wild Bull, bred in the Forrest of Caledonia, which had destroyed much people: the fame of this Champion made all people wheresoever he came to run away for dread of him, for he was of such strength that he would encounter with ten men at once, and to his strength was added such a cruelty of nature, that he spared none which fell into his hands; by aid of whom the Scots made such havoc in the North parts of England as turned all places there into ruine and desolation.

To redress these outrages King Edward desired aid of the City of London, where upon a Common Council was call'd, whereat Dr. Blackwel (for so was Ralphs surname) was present; where it was

propounded to each man what he would do for service of the King. Mr. Blackwell, whose heart was as loyal as his purse was large, to give a safe copy for the others to seeke after, subscribed to go himself in person, and to carry with him a full band, whom he would maintain at his own charge, this his generous subscription, drew on others to contribute largely, so that there was raised amongst them, enough to furnish a formidable Army.

The necessities of the Kingdome Affairs requiring haste, Mr. Ralph Blackwell was no sooner come home, but he told his journey men and prentises what he had done, asking them if they would be willing to go along with him to which they all readily consented, each striving who should express himself most forward for the service; which being willing mind he thankfully accepted of, promising if any of them were wounded or maimed in the service, they should be so carefully provided for after their return, as should give them no cause to repent of their undertakings. Next he bought them Muskets, Pikes, Drums, and Colours, habiting them all in a like livery of white, that they might be differenced from all others, choosing the most skilful of them to be Officers under him, as Lieutenant, Ensigne, Serjants and Corporals &c. This done he drew them each day before their departure out into the field, to exercise them, and make them fit for the day of battle.

And now the time came that the King set forward with his Army, when he found Captain Ralph ready & prepared to go along with him; his men so well disciplined and accounted, that the King gave him the title of the Noble Captain, his hand had also given to it the name of the Royal Band, whom the King so much honored, that he made them the second Company in his own Regiment; all things being thus ready, with a speedy march they hastened against the Scots who were then harrying with fire and sword in the Bishoprick of Durham, to whom the King sent this following message.

That he wondered his Brother of Scotland without any cause shown should so unjustly invade his Kingdome, and exercise such cruelty upon the English, as would make Pagans blush to own such actions; that therefore he required satisfaction of him for all those injuries done, or he would right himself the best he could with his sword.

To this the Scottish King returned answer, that the King of England has made

made war against the *French* King, his Allie and friend, and hath done him much mischief in his Country; that in revenge of those injuries, he had drawn his sword against the *English*, and was resolved not to sheath it up again, till he had taken a full revenge on them, for those damages they had done to the *French*.

The King having received this answer, sought with anger and indignation, marcheth up within sight of their Army, but the Scots had before possessed themselves of so strong a hold, that there was no coming at them without eminent danger, wherefore the King caused his Pioneers to dig up a deep Trench round about them, to keep them from foraging, that for want of victuals, he might at last compel them to flight.

Seven Dayes together did the Armies chafe one another, when at last out comes a challenge from Sir Turnbull the Scottish Champion, which containeth these words.

Think not proud *English* that by our lying thus still, we are not able, or afraid to fight with you; no, this is but only to give you time after your long march, to refresh your selves, that when the time comes, you may be the better able to encounter with us, least when you are beaten it might be your excuse to say your Army was ore wearied, but if in the mean space there be any one amongst you that dares to fight with me hand to hand, to show the Armies some little sport, he shall find me ready to answer him to morrow morning by eight of the clock in the meadow, which lyeth on the left side of our Camp, where I will attend his arrival with much zeal and impatience.

Turnbul.

This Challenge being read in the English Army, the nob's Captain Raffles desired the King that he might accept thereof, to which the King willingly consented, whereupon by the same Messenger, he returned him this answer.

I received your challenge which promises much in the contents, what ever will be performed in the Chapter, according to your desire, you shall be answered at the time and place appointed; where if you perform with your sword what your pen hath promised, you will add to your renown, if not you will onely make mirth to the *English*, and become the Trophie of

R. Blackwel.

Per.

Next morning at the time appointed both Champions met in the meadow, each so fully resolv'd, as valuing life less than victory. Sir Turnbull was mounted on a rolie black Steed, his Armour and Caparisons answerable thereto, having in device to bear forth : on the other side Captain Ralph was clean contrary, his horse was milk white, his armour representing milkwhites, so artificially contrived, that to the beholders he seem'd to be a milke man, his device was a white Dove fully fledged, with these words, plumb'd for victory, at the Trumpeets sound they run against each other, encounter'd so fiercely, that their Lances flew in a thousand pieces, then dismounting and drawing their Swords being on the ground with an eager courage



they assailed each other, laying on so thick and fast, as if their stock of valour would never be spent ; what ever hath been said of old Heroes, and their incomparable manhood, came far short of this combat

combate, valour and skill being so mixed in either, that never were two Cocks of the Same more equally matched: what Sir Turnbull exceed'd in strength, the other possest him in nimbleness, whereby he so annoyed Sir Turnbulls blows, that at last his arm began to faile with weariness, which Captain Ralph perceiving, with fresh courage redoubled his strokes, till at length he brought his adversary to lye at his mercy. The Scots seeing their Champion overcome in whom they had such an extraordinary confidence, sallied out with a party to have surpris'd Captain Blackwel; but King Edward who was watchful upon all such advantages, and had before provided for whatsoever should happen was there presently to his rescue, so that this single encounter grew on at last a general engagement betwixt both the armies; then was running, hacking, and slaying on every side, St. Georges Banner at St. Andrews Cross, were there mowed down by the fiths of Death, as ripened ears of Corn falls before the sickle, and the whole field was made a Chambers for humane slaughters, some lye wallowing in their owne gore, some were cursing, some praying, and others crying out for mercy. The Englishmen being resolved to purchase victory at what rate soever it cost them, pressed so hard upon the Scots as made them at last to give ground and flee, whom the English pursued in a full career and with incredible slaughter, for the Scots being laden with the plunder of the Countrey, were thereby much hindered in their flight, so that most of them were either killed or taken, the King with some few very hardly recovering Scotland.

King Edward having obtained this considerable victory, as soon as the field was cleared, commanded Captain Blackwel to put a Balace on his head, for he would knight him, the Captain desired to be excused, saying he was neither worthy nor able to take such an estate upon him, but the King made him to put it on notwithstanding all excuses, and then with a sword in both his hands (as the manner then was) he strongly struck him on the neck, and so knighted him, giving him a hundred pound lands a year for this noble achievement which he had accomplished.

The victory thus obtained King Edward returned with honour and triumph to London, Sir Ralph Blackwel bringing along with him the Scottish Champion Sir Turnbull as his prisoner, whom the King out of especial favour had bestowed upon him, who was afterwards ransomed by

by the Scottish being for five hundred marks of Silver. The City of London received them with great joy, ringing of bells, making of bonfires, and other devices; such flocking about to behold Sir Turnbull, whose fame was spread in all parts, as was wonderful to behold.

Sir Ralph was no sooner returned home, and that the King had dismissed him with commendations and thanks, but he returned again at length to his trade, honours in him not changing manners, well knowing that trading is the great prop which upholds and supports a King's dome, and makes the inhabitants th' real wealth; and that he found it true in this case, for he increased in his estate mightily, so that is that saying of ours

If thou wouldst thrive 'th world and wealthy be,
Keep thy shop *ROBIN*, and that will keep thee.

Not long after this returns a great ship came home, called the Golden Adventure, which had been five years out trading in the East Indies, and was very rich laden with others commodities: In this ship Sir Ralph had one shiled part, which so advanced his estate, that he was quicquid for chosen to be Sheriff of London, in which office he behaved himself very well, kept a noble house and executed Justice to all men impartially, neither favouring the rich nor the poor; mightiest, need laying the poor because of th' poverty, but to every one dealt with as he was able, that it grew to be a proverb, as good go to empty the Sea with a spoon as to persuade Sir Ralph in doing Justice, to give some instances of his uprightness the old man might be most able to unfold it to the Reader. A rich covetous Church had lost a bag of money containing one hundred pound, wherefore he caused it to be published by the Cryer, that whosoever had found the same, and would restore it, he should have ten pounds for his pains: It hapned an honest poor man found it, who brought it to the Church, requiring ten pound for his pains as was promised; but this covetous Currier minding to deceive the poor man, deeply swore there was a hundred and ten pounds, wherefore he would not give him a penny: thereupon the poor man had a Warrant for him and brought him before Sir Ralph Blackwell, where each of them having told his tale, Sir Ralph commanded the money to be produced, which being done, he

said to the rich Churle, you lost a bag of money with an hundred and ten pounds in it, and this poor man found one which had onely an hundred pounds therein, therefore by your own confession this is not likely to be the bag which you lost, therefore here honest man doe thou take it, and employ it well for the good of thy wife and children, and if thou finde a bag with an hundred and ten pounds therein then bring it to this man in the mean time keep that which thou doest. The rich Churle hearing him to decide the business, cryed out that his bag had but an hundred pounds in it, and therefore desired that he might have it: but *Sir Ralph* told him it was then too late to speak, and so dismissed him without it.

At another time it so hapned that a *Tylar* being at work upon a house, chanced to slip his hold, and so tumbled down, but by great fortune to him, it was his hap to fall upon another man as he was walking by, whereby he killed the other man: the son of the dead man hereupon brings the *Tylar* before *Sir Ralph Blackwel*, desiring Justice against him for the death of his Father: the *Tylar* pleaded chance medly, and that he did not kill him either wittingly or willingly, but nothing would serve the young man but that the *Tylar* must be sent to prison, no perswasions could prevail, to talk to him of reason was to set a blind man to discern of colours, or a deaf man to judge of musique; nothing could satisfie for the death of his father, but the life of the *Tylar*. *Sir Ralph* seeing his obstinacy, that reason could take no place in him, adjudged, that to make him satisfaction, the *Tylar* should stand in the same place where his father was killed, and the young man (if he would) might go up to the top of the house and tumble down upon him, but this the man refusing to do, the *Tylar* was discharged.

He used to look very narrowly after the Bakers, that they should not make their bread too light causing one *John* of *Stratford* for making bread lesser then the Assize, to be drawn on a wooden horse which went with wheels, quite through the streets of the City, having a fools hood on his head and loaves of bread about his neck, many other examples of his Justice might be produced, too long here to relate, we shall refer the Reader to the *Chronicles* of those times, which discourse much of his commendations.

Sir Ralph having passed through the year of his *Sheriffalty* with
honour

honour and credit, he afterwards became one of the Aldermen of the City, living with great splendour, and enjoying in a beautiful house, both to rich and poor, that his hospitality was taken notice of all Londoners, and now growing old in years having a vast estate, and no children to give it unto, he began to think much himself how to dispose of part of it for the publick benefit before it was too late, well knowing how often the wills of the dead are neglected, or not at all performed by these covetous Executors, he therefore intended to make his own eyes his overseers, and his own hands his Executors for the performance of his Bequests. He therefore bought this line of common market place for the sale of Cattle and other beasts, he first laid the foundation of a stately Hall, which in three years time with great care



and cost, he fully finished, appointing it to be a weekly market place, for all sorts of Cattle and beasts, broad and narrow, brought from all parts of this Realm, there to be sold, to the great benefit both of the

City and Strangers. This hall he freely bestowed upon the City, who for honour of the Franchise, gave it the name of Blackwel hall, which it still retaineth unto this day.

Sir Ralph having lived to see his building finished, and put to the use for which he intended it, not long after departed this life, having some few years before left his wife Arabella, who had been to him a constant, faithful, and loving wife. He gave great Legacies unto the poor, especially those of his own Company, as also several sums of money to bind up his children out apprentices. He was buried in great pomp by the Company of Merchant Taylors, whom he had trusted with the Estate he left behind him, to be disposed of to the uses aforesaid; who erected upon his Grave a most magnificent Monument, which time (the devourer of all things) hath since consumed, upon which was engraven this Epitaph,

Here lyes the honour of his trade and name,
 Brave Sir Ralph Blackwel, of deserved Fame;
 Whose acts proclaim'd his worth both near and far,
 And did renown his name in Peace and War-

Where we will leave him resting in his Grave in peace, and return to speak of William, whom we left newly married to his Masters maid, the witty fair Mistress Dorothy.



CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

How *William* flew a dreadful willie fire in *France*, how he built *Alfays* Hospital, where'n he became an Anchorite, and was after his Death Canonized for a Saint.

William having entered into marriage state, began to be sicker with himself that there was more belonged to him, then four bare legs had. For whereas before he wanted a luffe, he want a luffe in a chere thing else, there was a Bed to buy, force's, Cote let, Blankets, Curtains, Table cloths, Rappins, Chaire, Stool's, a Table, Seats, Pewter, Andirons, fire-shovel, Tonge, Bellow, Spite, Drying-pan, Wash-bowl, Hand-bowl, Tubz, Cupboard, Candle-nicks, Warming-pan, Frying-pan, Gilt-ken, Chaffing-dish, Toasting-iron, Kettles, Shakers, Powdering-stob, Trays, fire-fork, Drinking-pots, and so many several implemen's besides, as nigh crammed his purse, of all his silver, he a beir having good customers, and following his work, he soon recruited his stock.

So in a short space he grew to be so famous for his excellency in woorkmanship, that he was taken notice of at Court, and preferred to be Taylor to Queen Phillipa King Edwards wife, by which means he gained the custome of the most Eminent Ladies at Court, for as it is commonly seen, for the Lords to be of the Kings religion, so it is usual for the Ladies in their cloaths to follow the Queens fashion. By making to these great Persons he soon attained to a great Estate, but as his wealth increased so did his charge, for Dorothy was very fruitful, bringing him almost every year a child; besides he kept thirty journey-men, and had twenty prentices, whom he maintained all in one livery, so that he came to be of great esteem in the place where he lived, passing through all the Offices in the Parish, as Head-banger, Head-brough, Constable, Overseer for the Poor, and Church-warden, and not long after his abilities being more thoroughly taken notice of, he was chosen one of the common Council of the City, in all which Offices, he behaved himself with much prudence and understanding,

Pos:

After it came to pass that William being at Court, with some word he had to do for the Queen, that there came thither a Herald from the King of France, who proclaimed a solemn hunting on the wild Boar in the Province of Picardy, which had destroyed many people, and turned that fruitful Country into a barren wilderness, the places all the while round about being uninhabited for dread of that wild Beast. This Royal hunting was proclaimed in the Courts of all the Princes in Christendom; where upon a number of active spirits whose courages prompted them on to valorous enterprises, prepared themselves to go. The news of this noble adventure, set such an edge on Williams valor, that he likewise resolved to make one in that gallant assembly, and coming home, imparted his resolutions unto his wife, which made the task to tickle down her cheeks, and her heart to bobbel with joy.

Dear Husband (said she) hath the desire of fame, accompanied with so eminent danger, more force to call you hence away, then my unfeigned affection, and the paternal care of your sweet Babies, to prevail with you to stay at home; were we not so tyed together in Hymens Bands, that nothing but death should unloose that Gordian Knot. O why then should *Neptunes* waves separate us asunder? consider with your self the danger of the journey, the more danger in the enterprize in which a lot of us are concerned; as in a Ship of Merchandize wherein are many partners, that being sunk or taken, the loss redounds unto them all; your Children claim a part in it, I claim a part, 'tis not your self alone you adventure, let younger spirits follow *Axars* his Trainage soon enough will hasten on grim death you need not to go meet him thus half way; and by thrusting your self into needful dangers force *Atropos* to cut your thread of life, which otherwise might be spun out unto a longer date.

My second self (replied William) whose Love I prize far more then *Indian* Gold or all the treasures wherewith *America* is enriched withall; seek not for to dissuade, my mind from going when fame and honour both do call me forth; you say there is danger in the enterprize the greater is the honour in the conquest; he that fears to have his hands stung by the Bees, shall never sweeten his lips with their honey Flames breath costs pains and sweat to purchase it, and the path that leads to Honour is rugged, and full of intricate Meanders. Yet fear

not

not dearest wife, whom the Gods love, they will preserve, and expect me home again with fresh Lawrels interwoven with those which I purchased before I was married unto thee.

Dorothy seeing him so resolved to go, and knowing the Journey to be attended with Perils, left off any further dissuading him, and like an obedient wife, provides all things ready that was necessary for him to carry in his journey; so at the prefixed time he set forth, attended only with one servant, leaving the management of his Trade in his absence to his eldest Son, a wise man, and the guidance of his house to his daughter. Next, many of the English Nobility and Gentlemen, as being with him, and having a prosperous wind, and a smooth Sea, they quickly arrived at Paris, the chief City of France, which place they found full of Soldiers from all Countreies, who were come to try their manhood against the wild Bear. The King of France entertained them most hospitably, and that morning they appointed to set forward to Picardy, assembling them altogether, he made to them this following Oration.

Brave Sons of *Mars* whom thirst of glories prize hath invited over into this my Country, I think my Court much honoured in your Noble Companies, each of you appearing here unto *Meleager* who slew the wild Bear, that the deceased *Diana* sent amongst the *Grecians* for the neglect of her sacrifices, your looks do promise me an assured victory over that our Countreys foe, which unto whose victorious Arm, it shall happen, shall be rewarded with a Golden Spear, and an annual pension according unto his degree and dignity.

These words being uttered the Company set forthwards, being about three hundred in number, habited all in green like Foxgloves, with swords by their sides, and Boar-spears in their hands, being come within view of the place, and each man ordered according to his stand, they let loose a brace of lusty Beagles, who soon relized the Bear out of his Den, then began every man to handle his Weapons, and with a nimble eye to catch all advantages that might be taken; The first that struk at him was a Spanish Knight named Don Aonzo, who broke his Spear but wounded him not, for his skin was scarcely penetrable being as hard as a Bulls hide when it is tanned. The next that encountered with him, was one Mounfier De Bray a French man, who with great fury ran at him with his Boar-Spear, but missing his blow,

tumble

tumble quite over him, where upon the Bear turned back: so that he was in great danger, but is not been rescued by several but his that came in to be a Gallant, which made the Bear to leave him, and take him on so bravely to pursue William, who with true English fortitude encountered with him, and having broken his Spear at his first assault, he with his pike beat his sword, wherewith he wounded the Bear on the thigh, which made him strive to have a way, no more to than could bring in his tall Car there stood in his way a Welsh Gentleman named Shon ap Rice, ap Griffith, ap Howell, ap David, ap Morgan, ap Cadwalladar, who being with him back towards him lost in a purling Dell which late upon a Tree hard by, that the Bear ran lettish his Legs, carrying the Gentleman away on his Back, who being so unexpectedly surprized, and mounted thus on a sudden, he first what to do, whether he clapt his Legs close to his sides, and let him bear far: the people at this sight gave such a Shout that the earth rang with the sound thereof. Shon might not stir the Bear thus carrying Sir Taffy on his back, the murthering two Italian Brothers, Signor Francesco, and Signor Piedmonti, he let go his hold, and tumbled his self off him. The two Brothers with a lusty courage set upon the Bear, assaulting him so bravely, that he turned him and began to run back again. The Welch Gentleman tad by this time recovered himself and gotten up again on his feet, but seeing the Boat he took to be a Bull in a garden, Cuds pluck-a-nails (quoth he) is to kill in her that her can run at none but me. Whereupon to avoid his fury he clapt up upon a Tree. The Bear seeing him to fly, began to run and tear the Wood of the Tree, so that Sir Taffy jagged mouth at his last day was come, and was in his mind yet to turn as few never to abide stones such again. But William our valiant Cut-throat, haughty Taylor, notwithstanding his fear, who with winged heels he spaded to rescue Sir Taffy, and bravely encountering with the Bear who came to him with open mouth as if he would devour him in one moment he thrust his sword with all his might down his throat, so that he cut his heart in two, which made him to fall down dead. When Sir Taffy who was upon the Tree, saw the Bear dealing, he quickly basted down, and drawing out his keen rapier, (which was never used so any mans hurt before, he laid on with might and main upon the Bear. William desired him to hold

bold telling him that the Boar was already dead, no matter for that (quoth Taffy) but who can tell whether he may live again, and therefore to make sure work he never left till he had bight off the Boars two fore-legs, and then setting his Monmouth cap aside, he said, now let her see whether her can run after her again. The Company by this time were come in and laughed heartily at Sir Taffies valor, and highly applauding Williams fortunate success, each of them yielding the palm of victory to him and ascribing the honor thereof alone to his victorious arm.

Great was the wonderment of the people at the vast proportion of this Boar, which upon measure they found to be nine foot and a half in length, from his snout to his Tail, and five foot and two inches in height: his eyes were as big as Saucers, and his tusks of a mans length as sharp as Spanish needles. The King of France in reward of this vallant service, conferred on William the Honor of Knighthood, in the same place where he had killed the Boar, and with his own hands gave him a Golden Spear, the prize of his Conquest. Then cut they off the Boars head, and fixing it on the Truncheon of a Spear, it was carried in triumph before them all the way in their return to Paris, whether being come they were welcomed in most Royal manner, with ringing of Bells, frackings Pageants, and other costly devices; the people from all quarters flocking about to behold William, who had delivered their Country, from their much feared enemy, the destroying Boar.

Sir William having tarried some few dayes at Paris, growing quickly weary of Court delights, and longing to behold his Native Country again, he took his solemn leave of the King of France, and embarking with the rest of the English in a gallant Ship, they cut the business face of Neptune, and in few daies arrived in the delightful soil of England, at the town of Dover, where he made no tarryance, but taking Horse, never stayed till he came to his beloved Dorothy, who entertained him with these loving expressions.

Thrice welcome home my dearest Husband, my lifes chief joy, and hearts desired treasure, without whose company my life is to me irksome and uncomfortable, and enjoying which all things seem pleasant and delectable: For ever blessed be the immortal powers which kept thee safe throughout thy Journey, and crowned thy endeavours
L with

with fortunate success; now let thy mind be fixt to stay at home, banish all thoughts of leaving me again; less danger wilt thou find in the embraces of a loving wife, then in the encounters with a Savage Bear.

*Seal then a promise to me with a kiss
The last of thy adventure. shall be this.*

My chiefest joy and hearts delight (replyed Sir William) who can withstand the force of this thy Oratory, especially being endeared with a kiss from thy sugred lips, rest assured that thy Company is to me the greatest delight, that I possess in his life, and from which nothing but the eminent danger of my Native Country shall persuade me any more to arms, rest then thy self contented my dearest Derriby.

*Nothing but Death our company shall sever
Thine I am now, and will be so for ever.*

According to this loving agreement, Sir William fell freshly againe close to his Trade, continued his old customers, gained every day more new ones, so that he increased in his estate exceedingly: He still maintained the same number of Journey-men that he did before, added to the number of his Apprentices, and kept such a bountifull house, that his same rang all over London, none being so much spoken off as Sir William Elsing (for so was his surname) Thus did he spend his dayes in much joy, his wife loving, his servants singing, and his estate thriving; But what condition in this world is long permanent, how soon sit the pleasures of this life: being like to flowers flourishing in the morning, and withered in the Evening: For not long after it pleased God to send a grievous Pestilence and mortality quite thorough London, which swept away many thousands; amongst others, Sir Williams Lady, his Children, and all his servants, leaving himself alone of his numerous family: so that being brought now into a disconsolate condition, he uttered to himself this doleous complaint.

O ye immortal powers, said he, why have ye laid this heavy punishment upon me? O why was I born unto this day, to be so suddenly

denly deprived of that sweet society which should make life comfortable unto me? Oh how vain is whatsoever we hear do possess, nothing certain but uncertainty, O unconstant world, unstable fortune, mutable prosperity: with how many changes do we turn upon the hinges of our uncertain Fate, to day flourishing full of friend and acquaintance, to-morrow disconsolate, left alone, and deprived of all.

In this manner complained the woful Knight, sitting each corner of the house with his sad lamentations, at last he resolved with himself, to bid adieu to the worlds vanities, and to spend the residue of his days in a religious course of life; according to this Godly purpose, no sooner was the City free from infection, but he began to put his resolutions into performance, and at the North end of Gay-spurlane, in the parish of Aldermanbury, where formerly was a ruined house of Nuns, he purchased the same, and built thereon an hospital for the number of a hundred poor blind people, which for a long time after was called Elings spittle, and is now the same that is called Sion Colledge, at the end of this hospital he built a Cell, wherein he became an Anchorite, living therein till the day of his death, which hapned on the twenty third day of May, in the year of our Lord 1340. After his death he was canonized for a Saint, and the day whereon he dyed for a long time after celebrated by the Company of Merchant Taylors, as the twenty fifth of October is by the Company of Cord-wayners or Shoemakers in the honor of St. Crispin and Crispianus, but now though the continuance of long time the celebration of this twenty third of May is discontinued,

CHAP. XIII.

Now Sir John Hawkwood in reliefe of the Citizens of Florence, encountred with a Sagitary Hun and overcame him, how he killed a Dragon and afterwards dyed in great love and honour in the City of Florence.

Come we next to speak of the renowned Merchant Taylor, Sir. John Hawkwood whom we left in the Court of Ferdinando King of Cilicia, of whose praise sufficiently to speak, would wear a pen of steel to the stumps, and tire the hand of the most industrious writer, long had he not been there after the marriage of the Prince Arnaldo with the Lady Mariana, (as you have heard) but he received Letters out of Italy from the State of Florence, imploring his assistance against the Huns, a barbarous people, who had invaded their Province, having to their Leader a certain Saggitary, who was half man and half horse, by whose invincible strength, and swiftness of body they had overrun all the Country, and had then laid siege to the chiefe City of Florence it self. The Letters contained these words

Most renowned Knight.

Having had experience of your eminent valour, of which each Country in the world rings with the fame thereof, and knowing the nobleness of your mind, ever ready to assist those that are in distress, this spoke aloud unto us to desire your aid against a merciless enemy, who with savage cruelty hath harazed our Country, being as monstrous in his proportion as in his actions, make haste great Prince unto our rescue, then which no action can be attended with more honour, and which shall be accompanied with the prayers of

Your deplorable servants
the people of Florence.

Sir,

Sir, John Hawkwood having received this Letter, acquainted King Ferdinand therewith, as also his resolution to hasten to their relief. The King though loath to part with his company, yet it being upon so honorable an account, most willingly condescended, rewarding him very liberally for his noble achievements, and to the rest of the Captains and Officers he gave Jewels, and store of money, and the meanest of the soldiers tasted liberally of his bounty, so that every one praised him for a most honorable and renowned Prince. At the prefixed day for his departure the Prince Arnaldo presented him with a rich sword, the hilt whereof was all curiously enriched with diamonds of an inestimable value; and the most beautiful Mariana gave him a rich Diamond Ring, of so great price, that it was esteemed to be worth a Kings ransom. So after many complemental expressions of acknowledgement and gratitude, the renowned Knight took his leave marching with all the speed he could to Italy, and ceased not till he came within the borders of Florence, where he found all things turned topsy turvy, stately buildings converted into ruinous heaps of ashes, Towns lay desolate, and Villages without inhabitants, the fruitful fields crowned with corn, and the fat pastures covered with cattle, were now destitute of both, the barbarous foe sparing nothing which had either life in it, or which was for the sustentation and maintenance of life. Sir John Hawkwood marching into the City of Florence, was received by the Citizens with great joy, hoping now they should be able to deal with the insulting enemy, who regardless of being encountered with, kept not themselves in an entire body, but dispersing lay in several companies. Sir John Hawkwood having notice of this their careless security, resolved not to let slip so golden an opportunity, wherefore the next morning he marched out against them, when not four miles off, he found a party of them of about two thousand, some of which were singing, some dancing, some drinking, but none of them prepared or fitting to fight, the English soldiers encompassing them round killed them all, leaving not one of them alive to carry the sad tidings to the rest of their fellows how they sped. Then marched they with their Army five miles further, where was another company of them about four thousand more, whom they served as they did the other; but scarcely had they so done, when the Scots brought them word that the main body of the Enemies was not

about that place, stand from thence, wherupon the noble Knight Sir John Hawkwood drawing up his men upon the side of an hill, where he might be conveniently heard of them all, he there spake to them, these words,

Your valours renowned souldiers and companions in Arms, have been so often tryed and approved in fights, that it may seem superfluous at this present for me to say any thing to encourage you on, I shall now rather advise yee to have a care of being too forward, that you may not be encompassed with their numerous army, and so valour be enforced to give place to multitude, yet would I not by this Oracion take off the edge of your valour, but only to desire you to use it with discretion, and being thus forewarned let us march on, God and good fortune be our good speed,

These words being uttered both Armies drew near to each other, the Huns as to an assured victory by reason of their vast numbers, the English confident as being alwayes used to conquer. The barbarous people seeing so few opposers, never put themselves into order, as are counting themselves sure enough of their prize; but the noble Hawkwood soon made them perceive the odds between an Eagle and a Kite for drawing out his sword, he with an unresistable courage set upon them, giving as many wounds as blows, and as many deaths almost as wounds (lightning courage, and thundring smart upon them as put a stop to their over high proceedings) the other English Commanders working after the fair cecpy that he had set, laid about them like enraged Lions, making legs and arms goe complaining to the earth how ill their Masters had kept them, but fearing least in long fight they should be conquered by conquering, they drew back towards the City, but drew back in such sort that still their terror went forward, like a balliant Pastife, whom, when his Master pulls back by the tail from the Bear, though his pace be backward his gesture is forward. The Huns having tasted so liberally of the English valour, were not over hasty to follow, so that now some space of ground being betwixt them, and a cessation from fighting for the present, the Sagittar-Hun stood forth between the two armies and spake as followeth.

Proud Christians, whose desperate fortunes has emboldned you to this stout resistance, if there be any one amongst you that dares lay a particular claim to valour, and in whose strength you can so
much

much confide as to venture your cause upon his success, let him here appear before me, that we may encounter together, and if he overcome me, we shall willingly yeild to you, but if he be overcome by me we shall expect that you shall become servants to us.

This proud challenge who no sooner said, but that the invincible Hawkwood stepped unto him, saying, monster of nature were thy shape ten times worse then it is, or hadst thou the strength of Alcides, who cleaved the Augean stables, or the might of Arias, who is said to support the heaven with his back, yet would I no fear to encounter with thee, therefore prepare thy self to receive by my sword the just reward for all those cruelties thou hast committed, and think not by flight to scape the deserved punishment, for now is the time come that must put a period to all your bloody inhumanities.

These words being uttered, both parties encountered each other with invincible courage, so that in short time their armor flew in pieces, and the blood ran abundantly down from either party, in which most cruel fight they continued together for the space of two hours, at last Sir John Hawkwood enraged at the valour of his adversary, and knowing it was now no time of dalliance, seeing the monster begin to faint, he so redoubled his blows, and laid on with such invincible courage, that at last he brought the Sagittary to the ground, who at his fall sent forth such a bloody yell, as if Pluto's Court were broken open, or that he were a howling out his Dirge, for the loss of his beloved Proserpine.

With this fall of their General, fell the courage of the Hungs, who immediately betook themselves to flight; the English pursuing them made such slaughter of their bodies, that the earth drunk with their blood, spewed it up in crimson streams, and the slaughter'd carcasses lay on such heaps, as if they intended to make mountains of human bodies, thirty thousand was the least that fell in this days encounter: the rest with much fear and confusion returning to their Country. The magnanimous Hawkwood having received this victory, fell down on his knees in the field where he was, returning thanks to the Almighty for that great deliverance, not attributing ought in the least to himself, but ascribing all to the immortal Deity, without whose power he can do nothing. And now the soldiers being weary of killing, the fields cleared, and no danger to be expected from the Enemy, the re-

renowned English with their victorious General returned in Triumph to the City of Florence, where they were entertained in such gallant manner that I want art to describe the same. The Bells rung, Musique played, the Conduits ran Wine, the Palloons with garlands on their heads sang and danced in the streets, and generally there was such a resorting as had never been seen in that City; all of them with one voice chanting forth the praises of the renowned Merchant Taylor Sir J. Hawkwood. Having thus in triumph marched up to the Moot-hall or their meeting place in the City, he was by the Recorder thereof accosted with this following Oration.

Most renowned Sir, to whom we must acknowledg that we owe whatsoever we are, by whose unconquerable valour our City and Country hath been wrested out of the jaws of destruction, and preserved from utter ruine and desolation: had I as many tongues as *Briarins* had hands, or *Argus* eyes, yet were all of them insufficient to set forth your deserved praises, whose deeds have been such that Babes unborn in time to come shall chant forth these your noble achievements, vouchsafe great Sir to accept the humble thanks of this our City; and a grateful acknowledgment of your inestimable benefits bestowed upon us, which time shall not obliterate, but shall be preserved in brazen Statutes, that after ages may be informed of your noble facts, and how much posterity is indebted to your immortal memory.

This speech being ended, they presented him with a rich purse wherein was contained five hundred pieces of Gold, then did the Trumpets sound, and the souldiers gave such a volley of shot, as made the earth toring with the sound thereof; this Joy continued for the space of six weeks together, each day affording them fresh varieties of pleasures, at last an honourable employment summoned our noble Merchant Taylor the renowned Hawkwood to buckle on his armour again, which was occasioned as followeth.

There was at that time a mighty Dragon which haunted the borders of the Florentines Country, doing great damage to the inhabitants thereof, so that many sad complaints of the mischiefs that he had done were brought unto the States of Florence, Sir John Hawkwood having knowledge thereof, would needs try his valour against this enemy of mankind, and the next morning buckling one bright
 and

mour, taking only one servant along with him, being gallantly moun-



ted they rode on their journey, & at last came to the place where they beheld the Dragon, as he lay sunning himself against a mossy bank. The knight espying him alighted from his horse, which he delivered to his man, resolving to accomplish the adventure on foot, and marching directly to the place where he lay, no sooner did the Dragon espy him, but with full mouth he came running towards him, and elevating himself upon his tail, sought to grasp him into his di-

and the claws, but the Knight with a nimble turn avoided the same, and with his sword stroke so hard upon the Dragons head, that though by reason of his scales, which were as hard as brass, it made no entrance therein, yet it made him to stagger, and therewithal a little to give back; the Knight herewith encouraged, and the Dragon something dismayed, he intended to pursue his advantage, to put a speedier period to the combat: and seeking to thrust his sword into the Dragons belly, where only it was penetrable, the Dragon with a nimble twist of his taylor, gave him such a blow on the back, as he supposed a heave side had fallen upon him, but recollecting himself, and taking fresh courage, he so valiantly behaved himself, giving the Dragon so many wounds, that the grass was stained all over with his purple gore, and now beginning to faint for want of blood, he should have departed, which the valiant Hawkwood perceiving, he so redoubled his blows, that at length he brought him to the ground, where notwithstanding, what with his talons, and what with his tail he so defended himself, that it was long ere the noble Knight could make a full conquest of him, at length the Dragon clapping with his wings, the valiant Knight thrust his sword under one of them up to the hilts, which pierced his very heart, and made him yield his lifeless body a trophy of the Conquerors unmatchable prowess, By this time some of the Knights of the City, who missing his company, and imagining what he was gone about, had in the search of him, just found him at the very instant of time when the Dragon with his fall, had given their eyes a full assurance of the Knights victory, whom they congratulated with all the expressions of honour and gratitude imaginable, conducting him back to the City in solemn triumph, where he was entertained with ringing of bells, bonfires, and such acclamations of the people, that my pen wants art to set it forth. His renowned Knight after the killing the Dragon lived in great honour and splendour in this City, the space of seven years, his fame spreading as far as Sol with his beams doth enlighten the earth. Several Countries erecting Statues, to his immortal memory, and engraving thereon to the everlasting remembrance of that famous Knight at Arms the Renowned English Merchant Taylor Sir *John Hawkwood*, at last having attained to his great Chronological Year of Sixty three in the City of Florence aforesaid, he departed this life, to the unspeakable grief of the inhabitants

cents of that City, who in gratitude for his valour shewn in their defence, erected to his memory a most magnificent Structure, where in was portrayed his conquering the Sagitarian Tartar, his killing of the Dragon, with many other things of most exquisite workmanship, and to this day over the chief bridge of Florence is his Statue on Horse back in brass, with these verses underneath.

*England's prime honour, Italies renown,
Who upheld all Italy from sinking down.*

His friends also in England to his immortal memory, erected for him at Sible Henningham in Essex where he was born, a curious arched Monument wherein was portrayed the Effigies of Hawks flying in a Wood, in reference to his name of Hawkwood, and also built a Chantry allowing four Priests ten pounds a year (such was the Religion of those times) to pray for his soul.

And thus gentle Reader have we briefly shewn you the noble Achievements of some few of the renowned Society of Merchant-Taylors, to ennumerate them all would require more than one mans life to set them down, their number exceeding the bounds of Arithmetick. We will end therefore all in a Corollary concerning this Worshipful Company, their Hall, free School, and some other deeds of Charity by some of that Society, and so I will conclude.

CHAP. XIV.

Several worthy Acts of the Merchant-Taylors.

THe renowned Company of Merchant-Taylors have been a Guild, or Fraternity time out of minde, being called by the Name of Taylors and Linnen Armourers. For I find that King Edward the first

in the twentieth eight year of his Reign confirmed this Guild by the Name of *Taylor* and *Linnen*, *Armourers*, and also gave to the Brethren thereof, authority every year at *Midsummer* to hold a feast, and to choose unto them a Governour or Master, with Wardens : whereupon the same year 1200 on the Feast day of the Nativity of Saint *John Baptist*, they chose *Henry de Ryal* to be their Pilgrim, for the Master of this Mystery (as one that travelled for the whole Company) was then so called untill the eleventh year of *Richard* the second; and the four Wardens were then called Purveyors of Almes (now called Quarteridge) of the said Fraternity.

The Hall belonging to this Worshipfull Company is in *Thredneedle street*, not far distant from the Parish Church of *St. Martins Oteswiche*, which sometime pertained to a worshipfull Gentleman named *Edmond Crepin*, he in the year of Christ 1331. The sixth of *Edward* the third for a certain summe of money to him paid, made his grant thereof, by the name of his principal Messige in the Wards of *Cornhil* and *Broadstreet*, which *Sir Oliver Ingham* Knight did then hold, to *John of Tackley* the Kings Pavillion maker, whereupon it was then called the *New-hall*; or *Taylor* *Inne*, for a difference from their old Hall, which was about the back side of the Red Lyon in *Basing lane*.

The 21 of *Edward* the fourth, *Thomas Holm* alias *Clarieneaux* King of *Arms* for the South parts of *England*, granted by his Pattents to this Noble Company of *Taylor* and *Linnen-armourers*, for their Arms, to bear in a field Silver, a Pavillion between two Mantles Imperial, purple, garnished with Gold, in a chief azure, a holy Lamb, set within a Sun, the Crost upon the Helm, a Pavillion purple, garnished with Gold, &c.

After this, King *Henry* the 7 was himself a brother of this fraternity, of *Taylor* or *Linnen-armourers*, as divers others of his predecessors Kings had been, to wit *Richard* the third, *Edward* the fourth, *Henry* the sixth, *Henry* the fifth, *Henry* the fourth, and *Richard* the second. And for that divers of that fraternity had (time out of mind) been great Merchants, and had frequented all sorts of Merchandizes into most parts of the world, to the honour of the Kings Realm, and to the great profit of his Subjects, and of his progenitors, and the men of the said mistry, (during the time aforesaid) had exercised the buying and selling of all Wares and Merchandi-

zes, especially of woollen cloath, as well in gross, as by Retail throughout all this Realm of *England*, and chiefly within the City of *London*, he therefore of his especial grace, did incorporate them into the name of the Master and wardens of the *Merchant-Taylors*, of the fraternity of Saint *John Baptist*, in the City of *London*.

This Worshipful Company have a most famous Grammer School belonging unto them, founded in the Year 1561. by the Master, Wardens and Assitants of the *Merchant-Taylors*, in *Suffolk-lane*, in the Parish of St *Lawrence Pountney*, in *Dunne-gate Ward*. *Richard Hills* sometimes Master of that Company having before given 500*l.* towards the purcha'se of an House, called the *Mannour of the Kefe*, sometime belonging to the Duke of *Buckingham*, wherein the said School is now kept.

Now as God hath from time to time blessed this worshipful Company with abundance of wealth, so have they not been lacking to distribute the same again in Charitable uses, having near to their Hall built seven alms-houses, wherein are placed seven alms-men of that Company and their wives (if they have any) each of these seven of old time had fourteen pence the week, but now of latter time, their stipend by the said Master and Wardens hath been augmented to the sum of twenty six shillings the Quarter, which is five pound four shillings the year to each of them, besides Coals. More to each of them twenty shillings the Year by gift of *Walter Fish*, sometime Master of that Company, and Taylor to her Majesty.

Besides this have they at the West-end of *Hogg-street*, by *Tower hill* certain fair Alms-houses, strong'y buield of brick and Timber, and covered with slate, wherein are 14 poor sole women, which receive each of them of their founders 16 pence, or better weekly, besides 8 pounds fifteen shillings yearly, paid out of the Common Treasury of the same Corporation for fuel.

Now should we come to speak of the gifts and boanties of particular persons free of this Worshipful Company, it would make a sufficient volume of it self, I shall only instance in one or two, referring the rest to a more convenient place.

Robert Thorne Merchant-Taylor, who dyed in the Year, 1532. gave by his Testament to charitable actions more than four thousand four hundred

hundred & forty pounds, and Legacies to his poor kindred more five thousand, one hundred, forty two pounds besides his debts forgiven, &c.

Sir Thomas White Lord Mayor of the City of *London* in *Anno 1554* and a Brother likewise of the *Merchant-Taylors* Society, founded *St. John Baptists* Colledge in *Oxford*, erected Schools at *Bristow*, *Redding*, and a Colledge at *Higham Ferris*, and gave several thousands of pounds to other charitable uses.

Sir Thomas Rowe Knight Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, in *1568* a worthy Brother also of the *Merchant-Taylors* Company, built the new Church-yard in *Behelem*, gave an hundred pounds to be lent to 8 poor men, and 40 pounds yearly to maintain ten poor men for ever to be chosen out of the five several Companies, of Clothworkers, Armourers, Carpenters, Tylars and Plaisterers.

Sir Thomas Cffley Merchant Taylor, Mayor, who deceased *Anno 1580* appointed by his Testament the one half of all his goods, and 200 pounds deducted out of the other half, given to his son *Henry* to be given and bestowed in deeds of Charity, by his Executors, according to his confidence and trust in them.

Infinite others might we produce, whose charities and bountiful house keeping, have been as conspicuous as the Sun in the Firmament, no Society having produced more brighter, stars in Fames horizon, but we shall leave the further prosecution hereof unto a second Edition of this book.

The song to be sung by the Journey-men

Taylors on St. Williams day at night.

O Fall the Trades that ever were,
 Who with the *Taylors* may compare,
 That fits the Ladies to a hair,
 And makes them fine and brave,
 They on their Shop-boards sit and sing,
 And live contented as a King,
 Their trade such profit doth them bring,
 They scorn to play the knave.

The fairest Ladies in the Land,
 Doth to the *Merchant Taylor* stand,
 Whilest he with parchment in his hand,
 Takes measure of their bodies,
 They are content to handled be,
 By no one trade but only he,
 But to tell all which they do see,
 They are not such dull Noddies.

The *Taylor* he goes neatly drest,
 He eats and drinketh of the best,
 He takes no care, his heart's at rest,
 But sings like to a *Linnet*;
 A little matter him up sets,
 He comes not in the Userers debts,
 At great mens fortunes he not frets,
 He knows there's danger in it.

His *Shop board* is his Seat of state,
 On which he sits early and late,
 Free from ambitions deadly hate,
 Or from base envies spight,
 His *Thimble* doth his finger guard,
 Whilst he doth sing and work full hard,
 He from content is not debar'd,
 His actions being right.

His *Needle* is the tool by which,
 He in a short time doth grow rich,
 By sowing of full many a stitch,
 In cloath and eke in stuffe,
 His *sheeres* the cloath doth cut whereby,
 He makes a garment handfomly,
 This is the *sheeres* sole property,
 And that is sure enough.

His Iron *Goose* at his desire,
 Lyes alwayes roasting at the fire,
 To press those seams that do aspire
 And will not handfome be,
 His *Bodkin* maketh holes, whereby
 Men do with points their Breeches tye,
 And women lace them prittily,
 A comely sight to see,

Thus doth his trade him profit bring,
 Being shaddowed under Fortunes wing,
 And when for service of his King,
 He called is to fight,
 He doth obey his Kings command,
 Although it be to forrain land,
 To fight as long as he can stand,
 With all his strength and might.

In service of their King and Queen,
 What souldiers brave have *Taylors* been,
 May in the Chronicles be seen,
 Which cannot be withstood,
 Their acts do show they valliant were,
 Their dearest blood they would not spare,
 Nor for their lives at all did care,
 To do their Country good.

FINIS.

